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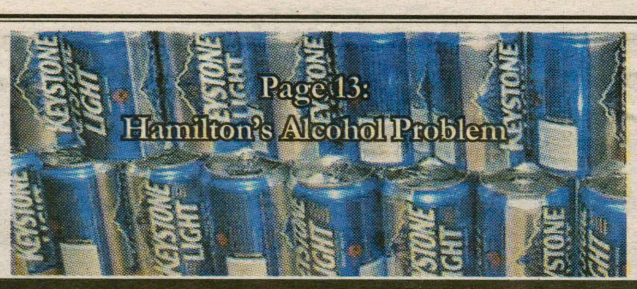
Page 9: Ttyl, Professor! Office Hours Move To Cyberspace At Nation's Colleges



Page 13: Hamilton's Alcohol Problem

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A Hamilton College Student Publication, Clinton, NY
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Volume XLVIII Number18

THE SPECTATOR

Allodi Awarded Academic All-Star

By Olivia B. Waxman '11
News Writer

This month, Chemical Physics major Marco Allodi '08 became Hamilton's second student in two years to clinch a spot on the USA Today All-USA College Academic Third Team. Fellowship Coordinator Ginny Dosch and Winslow Professor of Chemistry George Shields nominated Allodi, a native of Oriskany, N.Y., for the award.

Every February, the nation's number one newspaper pays tribute to 60 high-achieving undergraduate scholars who excel both in and out of the classroom. Out of the 500 students nominated each year for the honor, 20 academic

*See **Allodi**, page 3*

PHOTO BY LAUREN MOON '09

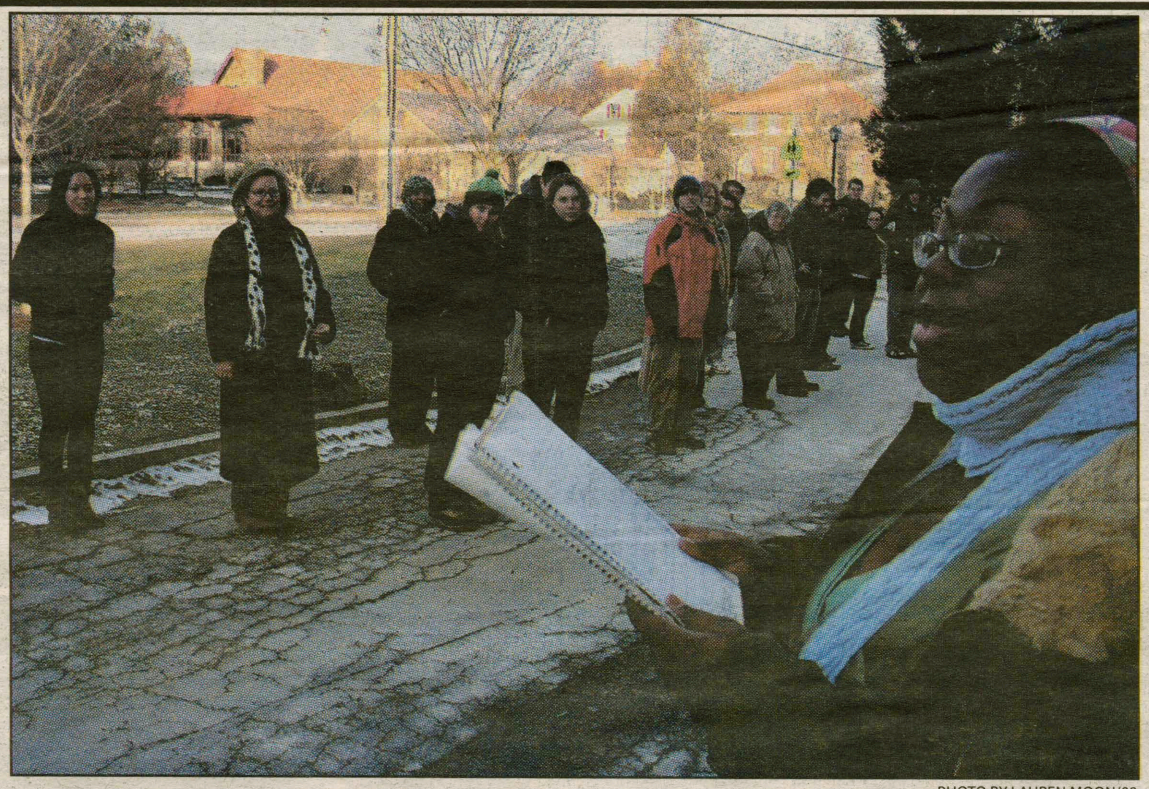

PHOTO BY LAUREN MOON '09

Robyn Gibson '10 leads a group activity called the "privilege line" during SJI Coffee Hour.

SJI Proposes Cultural Center

By Mallory Reed '10
News Editor

At this week's Social Justice Initiative Coffee Hour, members of the student-run and organized SJI unveiled their proposal for a Cultural Education Center at Hamilton. According to the SJI proposal, "If Hamilton wants to become a truly inclusive campus and empower students from traditionally marginalized groups, it must establish a cultural center." The SJI calls upon the college to build a center named after alumnus Bob Moses within the next 10 years to "demonstrate its commitment and respect for cultural and intellectual diversity." The Cultural Education Center would be in addition to a new Student Union already planned for construction.

SJI member Robyn Gibson '10 began the Coffee Hour with a group activity called a "privilege line." Students and faculty stood outside ELS holding hands in a straight line and were then asked to take either a step forward or backwards in response to statements and questions. Gibson gave directions such as "take a step forward if your parents went to college," "take a step backward if your professor has ever called you out in class to represent your race," and "take a step forward if the general population of Clinton looks like you." At the end of the exercise, participants were spread out across the ELS circle. Gibson then held up a credit card and said whoever got to it first would get the money.

"The privilege line shows there are a variety of differences on campus," said Gibson. Corinne Bancroft '10 added, "At Hamilton it often looks like we are standing in a straight line

*See **SJI**, page 2*

Model United Nations

By Bessie Taliaferro '10
News Writer

On February 14, eleven Hamilton students competed in the 54th annual Harvard National Model United Nations conference (HNMUN), which claims to be "the largest, oldest, and most prestigious conference of its kind." HNMUN is a four-day simulation of the United Nations, including 26 mock committees with 3,000 students from the U.S. and over 30 countries around the world.

Anna Zeng '11 described HMUN as "the most international conference I've been to." Zeng has attended a number of conferences, including one in Peking University in Beijing. She said, "At HMUN, there were delegates from schools like Toronto University to schools in the UK, France, China and Hong Kong."

Hamilton represented the delegation of Fiji and served in a number of General Assembly and Special Committees, including the Legal Committee, Social Humanitarian and Cultural Committee, World Health Organization, World Summit on Children, Economic and Financial Committee, and the World

*See **MUN**, page 2*

Team Hamilton Preps Utica's Heart Run & Walk

By Mallory Reed '10
News Editor

On March 8, Hamilton will get the chance to show its heart in Utica's Greatest Heart Run and Walk. This annual fundraiser for the American Heart Association is the 4th largest of 750 similar events nationwide, exceeded in size in only Seattle, Dallas, and Detroit. "What the size of the event says is that in the Utica area there is a lot of general concern for people," said co-captain and Professor of Biology Ernest Williams. "Utica is an involved and caring community."

Co-captains Williams, Lecturer in Music Colleen Pellman, and Professor of French John O'Neal lead Team Hamilton College. "The whole point is to do this as a team and get as many people participating as possible," said O'Neal. Team Hamilton College is growing strong with the Women's Swim Team, the Men's Hockey Team, the Men's Golf Team, the Women's Lacrosse Team, Women's Soccer Team, Women's Tennis Team, and numerous professors and students gearing up to walk and run.

There are two ways to participate in the Heart Walk and Run. This year walkers and runners must pay a 25-dollar minimum to participate in a 3 or 5-mile walk, or a 3, 5, 10, or 18-mile run. One can support the cause by actively participating or by sponsoring individuals in the event. "When people sponsor me I have them sign my shirt so they feel they are participating," said Williams.

Heart disease is the number one killer in the United States, and kills more people per year than all cancers combined. In 2004, the most recent year with full reports available, 652,486 US citizens died from heart disease. All cancers combined cause 553,888 deaths. Williams said that of the funds raised during the America's Greatest Heart Run and Walk, 25 percent goes to research, 10 percent goes to public education, 10 percent goes to community service, and 10 percent supports the American Heart Association. Some of the money raised stays in Utica to support research activities and community services. "Mortality due to heart disease has declined over the last two decades because of work done largely by the American Heart Association," said Williams.

Both Williams and O'Neal describe participating in the Heart Run and Walk as an incredibly powerful experience. Last year 8,000 people turned out to walk and run. "It's a really moving experience emotionally to participate in such a large group," said O'Neal. "You really get a sense of the spirit of the people. Utica is a little city with a big heart."

Team Hamilton College hopes to have a big presence at this year's event. O'Neal emphasized that "you don't have to walk or run, but can just give money." He says Hamilton's participation in the Greatest Heart Run and Walk not only builds a sense of community among Hamiltonians, but it also improves town and college relations. "We are going to show that Hamilton has heart," said O'Neal.

*See **Heart Walk**, page 2*

American Heart Association.
Learn and Live.
HEART WALK.

SJI Proposes a "Safe Place" for Marginalized Students

*From **SJI**, page 1*

when in reality we are not. We need to make the line even out." The credit card at the end of the activity symbolized the distance that underprivileged groups have to travel to compete with people who have privilege. One of the students who was far behind the original line at the end of the activity said, "I didn't even try to run for the card because I knew it was no use."

The Cultural Education Center that the SJI proposes will not only celebrate the differences of students at Hamilton illustrated by the privilege line, but it will provide a "safe space" for marginalized students. The proposal states, "Although all students are ostensibly welcome all over campus, students of color and other underrepresented groups do not feel welcome." The center would provide a space for numerous minority student organizations such as the Womyn's Center, the Rainbow Alliance, La Vanguardia, the Brothers Organization, and the SJI to express themselves in a safe environment. However, the SJI proposal emphasizes that "this center will be open to all students."

The SJI proposes that the Cultural Education Center be in a central location at Hamilton for accessibility and "to demonstrate the centrality of diversity at Hamilton College." On the first floor of the building, the proposal calls for a comfortable foyer where students can intermingle and study, a library to keep historical documents and books relating to multiculturalism, a computer room, a lecture and banquet hall, and a kitchen. On the second floor the SJI would like a conference room, ten smaller rooms for each of the organizations, an open common room with couches, tables, a T.V. and a pool table, and an Office for the Director of Multicultural Affairs. The Director of Multicultural Affairs is a new position that the SJI calls on the college to establish to work directly with cultural issues at Hamilton.

SJI member Stephanie Tafur '10 said that the proposal was sent to the Board of Trustees, Dean Thompson, and the Office of the President. She opened the meeting up to questions and comments from the community. Students and staff voiced their opinions on the construction of the Cultural Education Center, discussed the wording of the proposal and considered reactions from the larger community. To get involved in the conversation about the Cultural Center and issues of diversity on campus, the SJI meets every Thursday at 9 p.m. in KJ 223b and hosts Coffee Hours every other Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. in ELS.

PHOTO BY LAUREN MOON '09

The Community discusses issues at the SJI Coffee Hour.

PHOTO COURTESY MODEL UN

Hamilton Model UN represented Fiji at Harvard University.

MUN at Harvard U.

*From **MUN**, page 1*

Trade Organization.

MUN conferences are noted for their "serious political topics," said Amanda Pooler '08. Topics such as terrorism in Africa, Free and Fair Elections, Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs), and Child Soldiers in Africa were brought to life through debate and simulation. "During one of our committee sessions, one of the Harvard staff members came in role-playing as a former child soldier from Uganda," said Matt Arnold '09. "She delivered a very moving speech about her experiences of being held captive and forced to marry one of the commanders at the age of 12, having her first child at 13. This really made the issue touch home for us because it reminded you that you are debating topics that are real and serious. It makes MUN much more substantive than just 'pretending' that you are participating in the UN."

For many delegates, HMUN feels authentic, not simulated. "The feeling of representing an actual delegation is enhanced by this element of travel since representatives of countries often travel for international conferences," said Henok Alemayo '10, who served on the Special Political and Decolonization Committee. Pooler and Mikhail Bell '08 served on the Economic and Financial Committee, which discussed PPPs. "As an English major, I was a bit out of my league in an Econ committee," said Pooler. "However, I had a really good time in Boston, and we did a lot of touristy things (like visiting China Town, Quincy Market, and Fanieul Hall) in our spare time." The experience was especially relevant for Bell, who is a World Politics major. Bell described the event as "really well organized; it went off without a hitch. It was also nice to get off campus and just be in Boston."

Many students felt the conference was a great way to connect their studies to current events. "Being in MUN motivates me to connect everything I learn in the classroom, especially in my International Relations and Macroeconomics theory classes, to what is happening in the real world," said Zeng. Bell said that he would encourage any student to participate regardless of his or her major, because "the topics are so interdisciplinary."

In addition to applying knowledge, students also learn the value of networking. "The conferences are truly a test to the ability of students to apply what they've learned while developing their interpersonal skills and meeting other highly-motivated individuals, said Alemayo. "I highly value the opportunity to work with others, to strengthen communication and cooperation skills, and to represent views that may not correlate with that of my own, which I've gained through the recent and previous Model UN conferences." Similarly, Arnold noted the value of collaborating. "At conferences, you learn how to strategize with other delegates from all over the world and try to come up with viable solutions to these issues," he said.

For many, conquering the challenge of public speaking made the conference worthwhile. "I think my favorite part of the trip was when I got the courage to speak in front of a crowd of around 200 people," said Sitanshu Mishra '10. "I think that Hamilton really prepared me in feeling comfortable in public speaking, otherwise I do not think I would have been able to do that." Since HMUN is the only conference of the semester, it was the last conference for seniors. "I wish I had started doing MUN earlier," noted Bell.

Eighth Grade Academy Visit

By Kate Tumarello '11
News Writer

You may have seen a group of smaller students walking around campus this week. These middle school students are participants in the Eighth Grade Academy, a program by Boston's Citizen Schools. For the fourth year in a row, students from this program have come to Hamilton to get a taste of college life.

The Citizens Schools program was founded by Eric Schwarz and Ned Rimer in 1995 as a way to help the students in Boston stay on a focused track. Hamilton graduate John Werner '92 was one of the first campus directors. What started as a small initiative in Boston has spread to sixteen campuses in six states, with a program in New York City set to open this coming fall.

The basic goal of the Citizens Schools program is to keep the students academically motivated both inside and outside of school. Students are provided with apprenticeships in a number of different fields, in which they participate twice a week, a public presentation of the projects they work on once a semester, and extra assistance with homework. Volunteer teachers work to provide their small groups of students with engaging academic activities, leadership development, and real world experience.

By bringing students to schools like Hamilton, Eighth Grade Academy provides a glimpse of the benefits come from staying focused and determined throughout high school. Amy James, our Coordinator of Special Programs here at Hamilton, hopes these visits "can keep them inspired and focused throughout the high school years."

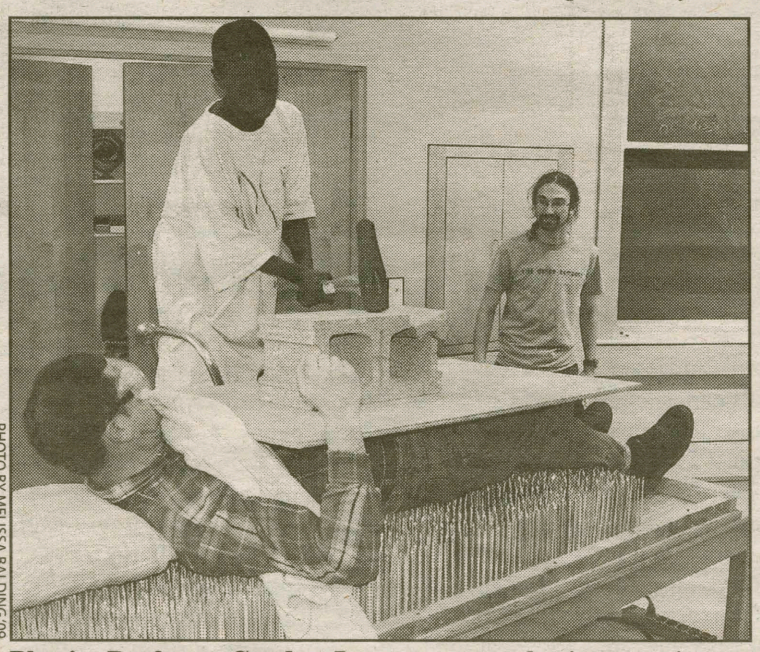

PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

Physics Professor Gordon Jones enacts a physics experiment.

During their visit at Hamilton, students saw many aspects of college life in action in interactions with professors, deans, and students. They met with admissions and financial aid officers to see the process of getting accepted to and paying for college. Students attended chemistry classes, biology labs, meals at the dining halls, and athletic activities. The list of events for these students included a talent show put on by the Hamilton community to showcase life here on the hill. According to James, these visits are made possible by "lots of planning and team work, lots of asking for faculty, students and others to volunteer their time."

Every year, Hamilton students get the chance to show middle school kids everything that Hamilton has to offer. Likewise, the eighth graders get a taste of what a successful high school career can lead to. Hamilton helps the Citizen Schools program to encourage students to stay focused throughout high school.

Heart Run & Walk

*From **Heart Walk**, page 1*

Registration forms are available at the Fitness Center and Opus 1 and 2. To join online at www.uticaheartrunwalk.org, the team name is Hamilton College. To contribute money, checks should be made payable to "American Heart Association" and sent to Pellman, Williams, or O'Neal.

Allodi Academic Named 3rd Team

*From **Allodi**, page 1*

all-stars make the Scholarship's First Team, and 40 make the Scholarship's Second and Third Teams.

"You can't go around asking for recognition, but when you see the caliber of students named to the first, second, and third teams, it's hard not to be excited about being a part of such a select group," Allodi said

A member of the Hamilton College Chemical Society, Allodi collaborated on research with Shields and Co-Director of Molecular Design Karl Kirschner for the past three summers. In 2006, he was first author on the article "Do Hydroxyl Radical-Water Clusters, OH(H2O)n, n=1-5, Exist in the Atmosphere?" published in the Journal of Physical Chemistry A. He also presented research at the Sanibel Symposium in Florida, the MERCURY conference (an annual computational chemistry seminar for undergraduates hosted by Hamilton) and the Hamilton chapter of Sigma Xi's poster session for student researchers.

"Chemical Physics interests me because it combines two of my intellectual passions: chemistry and physics," Allodi explained. "I am interested in doing research on systems familiar to chemists, like materials, by using the tools of physics. I love this field because it allows me to bridge the gap between the two disciplines to produce innovative research."

A Goldwater Scholar, Phi Beta Kappa member, and member of the Hamilton Dean's List, Allodi hopes to get a Ph.D. in physical chemistry and become an academic. "Marco will make a wonderful professor," said Shields. "He's very outgoing. He's curious, intelligent, and good-natured. It is nice to have him working in the lab."

But Allodi's talents extend well beyond the laboratory. On campus, he is an avid member of the Spanish Club, a tenor in the Choir, and a brother in Tau Kappa Epsilon, where he has acted as chaplain. Off campus, he is a volunteer coach for an inner-city soccer team in the Cornhill area of Utica. Shields revealed that Allodi also teaches himself German.

Allodi credits the college and its liberal-arts emphasis for making him a well-rounded student, and, in particular, the chemistry and physics departments for motivating him to pursue a career in academia.

"I firmly believe that I would not have been able to achieve anywhere near what I have at any other school," Allodi said. "Hamilton provided me with opportunities to do chemistry research after my first year at Hamilton. The faculty in both chemistry and physics are outstanding, and they have inspired me to strive to become a scientist, which I believe is my calling.

"In addition, Hamilton has nurtured my liberal arts background, allowing me to be a holistically educated person," he noted. "I've been able to pursue academic research in history as well as chemical physics thanks to my Schambach scholarship. Hamilton taught me how to think critically and write effectively, which is the goal of a liberal arts education."

THE SPECTATOR

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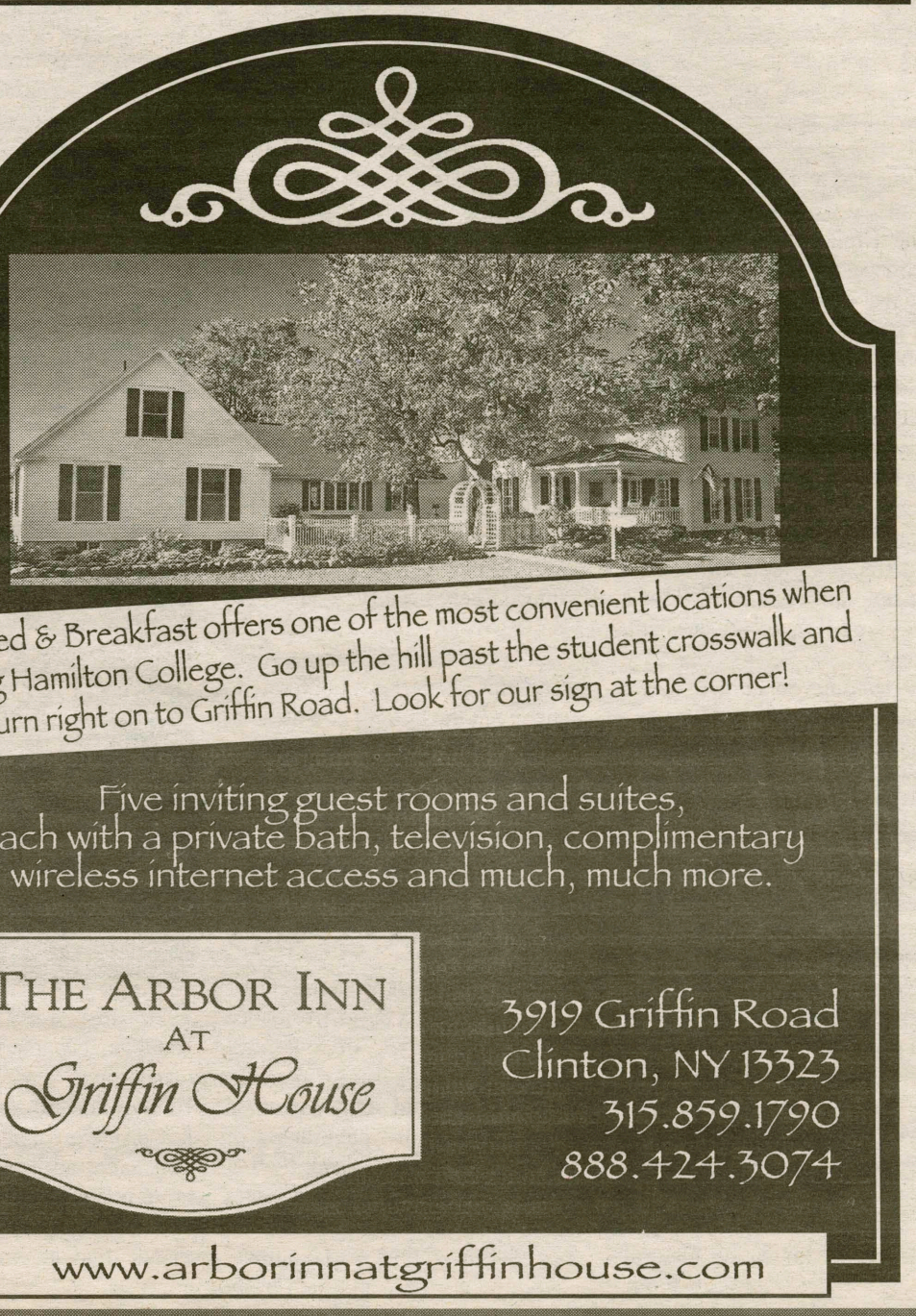
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INSIGHTS & IDEAS

The Truth Has No Author

The Gossip Box

"An Increasingly Laaaarge Demand..."

The Rumor

The Thomas B. Rudd Health Center recently decided to expand the free prophylactic selection on campus, with choices including various textures, lubrication, and brands that traditionally serve those who are better equipped to safely make adult decisions. This is in addition to the Durex brand, which came in a mere four colors and held a monopoly on the condoms at Hamilton.. This is in response to a growing demand amongst the newest members of the student body.

The Evidence

Durex, the long-standing favorite brand at the Health Center, lacked a wide enough selection to accommodate the members of the student body who had moved on to bigger and better things. Suddenly, after Winter Break, both male and female members of the student body were pleasantly surprised to see that the Health Center was offering contraceptive devices in a variety of colors, textures, and sizes. Surprisingly, in the entire history of the College, (well, at least since Kirkland was formed), Durex was adequate enough for the student population. However, it was only with the newest Class of 2011 that the Health Center is seeking to make expansions in the selection.

The Conclusion

The Hamilton College Class of 2011 is among the most successful, competitive, prodigious classes in Hamilton College history. In every way.

THE GOSSIP BOX IS A GOSSIP PAGE WHICH PUBLISHES RUMORS AND CONJECTURE IN ADDITION TO ACCURATELY REPORTED FACTS. INFORMATION HERE MAY OR MAY NOT BE TRUE AND THE SPECTATOR MAKES NO CLAIM AS TO ITS VALIDITY.

HONOR COURT VACANCY!!!

Are you a member of the Junior class? Do your turn-ons include academic honesty? Does plagiarism make you sad?

If so, contact Sarah Levitan for information!

CES Doesn't Solve Problem

by Scott Bixby '11
Insights & Ideas Editor

The open exchange of ideas is one of the hallmarks of the liberal arts education that Hamilton College offers its students. People are, ostensibly, allowed to share their opinions and viewpoints without fear of judgment or unfair criticism. Ideally, that openness fosters an environment where differing perspectives are valued as contributions, instead of dismissed as uninformed and unfair. That's why I am so shocked—and not a little frustrated—with the intensity of the conflict surrounding the proposed Cultural Education Center.

The written proposal for the Cultural Education Center, or CES, makes it very clear within three paragraphs that the Hamilton College atmosphere is constricting for its students of minority status. The whole campus, all 1,300 acres, apparently, is comprised of "white space." Even our buildings are intolerant. I never would have thought that the cutely-named Azel Backus House would be an accessory to the suppression of minority groups, but according to the proposal, it "perpetuate[s] the idea that only wealthy whites are successful" and influential on the Hill.

The conflict over the CES doesn't just cut between students who support its construction and those who don't; multicultural groups on campus have been hammering out the priorities of the building, and who should be included in its planning, since the idea's inception. Perhaps the best indicator of the fragmentation within the ranks of CES' supporters would be the fact that there would be no less than *ten* separate rooms for storage, one for each of the organizations that seek a home in the Cultural Education Center. It's not enough that the CES and ELS can't share a space? Even file cabinets and DVD collections have to be separated at Hamilton?

I'm sorry, but I wasn't aware that the purpose of the CES, or of its proposal, was to try and "out minority" everyone else. At the beginning of the proposal, those who wrote it were very careful to not distinguish between race, sexual orientation, or disability status, instead preferring the umbrella term of "multiculturalism." It only takes another two paragraphs before the campus atmosphere is dubbed a "norm of elite whiteness." The term "white" is used five times within six sentences. Because, you see, white people apparently *can't* be members of minorities, *or* possess a desire to understand and appreciate the experiences that members of those minorities bring to the academic table. In reality, multiculturalism extends beyond just the racial paradigm.

Though the implied ignorance of white people to the plight of minorities rankles me, what is really frustrating is the assumption that the construction of a building is going to solve the problem of intolerance at Hamilton. The proposed Cultural Education Center is being deemed a "safe space." I don't want a single building where minorities can feel comfortable. I want a *campus* where *everyone* can feel comfortable. That means a campus where multicultural organizations aren't jockeying for the position of who has it roughest; where a same-sex couple doesn't need a special, assigned room in one building where they can hold hands; where members of that "wealthy white" group can attend a meeting on diversity and not be written off as having nothing of substance to say by virtue of their majority status.

The construction of the CES would be a wonderful thing, if it were built in conjunction with a serious overhaul of campus-wide attitudes regarding diversity. If people were able to have productive conversation about Hamilton's diversity issues without resorting to taking sides, raising voices, and getting offended, the CES would be a great symbol of the tremendous progress the campus has made in affirming that all backgrounds and viewpoints are respected. However, if the attitudes between students of differing backgrounds and convictions continue to be hostile, the Cultural Education Center will be yet another empty gesture toward diversity. I think this campus needs more than a building right now.

Hamilton's Alcohol Problem

by J. Max Currier '10
Insights & Ideas Writer

Hamilton College has an alcohol problem. And we must do something about it.

Too many freshmen come to college and are peer-pressured to drink. Too many students get through the week by looking forward to weekend drinking, despairing when an athletic or extracurricular activity requires them to stay sober. Too many students spend Friday and Saturday night—and weeknights as well—stumbling between various parties and drinking games, ending up incapable of being, and being responsible for, themselves. Too many students are drinking too much, too often. Do we not know this? Or do we just not care? Regardless, it needs to stop.

Having spoken with new and old members of the College administration, it is clear that Hamilton's social scene is dominated by alcohol in a unique way. One new administrator told me of being shocked at the prevalence of alcohol, and another explained that spending significant time here causes one to become "Hamiltonized" regarding what students do and how much they are allowed to get away with.

The fun and liberation alcohol can provide is, in part, exactly the problem. It's unnecessary that a group of young intellectuals chooses to forgo their youthful vitality and intellectual capacity in favor of intoxication. Naturally, college students long for fun but, apparently, they cannot find joy and fulfillment within themselves and others but, rather, in bottles.

Estimating the extent that alcohol is 'controlled' presents a misleading perspective. We must not delude ourselves by assuming the number of students EMT'd or sent to hospitals—and the number is more than a few each weekend—is any indication of alcohol's effect. We must not wait for extreme problems to arise before we confront them. To be sure, the College would not watch idly as a roommate conflict caused destructive interrelations, not taking action until one of them was sent to the hospital. The College stopped sponsoring parties with hard liquor largely because a student at one such party almost died and the College feared legal repercussions. Students are perhaps not likely to die given the current condition of alcohol consumption but that does not mean there are not very serious problems. The threshold for action seems contrived and arbitrarily convoluted. For the College to watch idly as social life withers away is a total abdication of responsibility.

Too often I have come across a drunken girl crying in a residence hall stairwell. Too often I have watched friends treat others in ways they would not if they were sober. Too often I have heard of friends who do not drink feeling socially excluded by those who do. Too often I wonder why we spend time doing stupid things, laughing at them, and then passing out—labeling it "good times" and looking forward to the party tomorrow night for round two. This is not why we are here or why we pay extraordinary tuition. This is not who we advertised ourselves to be in the applications that got us here. This is not helping any of us become better people.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LAUREN MOON

I do not understand why "college" became a synonym for using drugs and alcohol; I most certainly do not understand why we, from generation to generation, have allowed that synonymous relationship to continue. All of us are complicit in this failure. Resident Advisors rarely—excepting cases of disrespect or extreme transgressions—document policy violations, a system of irresponsibility. I do not believe Campus Safety does a much better job. The Student Activities Office only occasionally provides alternative activities. Overall, the administration has failed to overhaul a pathetically deteriorated student social life. And, finally, all of us as students have failed to be accountable to ourselves. We have failed to carry ourselves with class and dignity—much less basic maturity—and failed to help our peers do the same.

There are few, if any, benefits to drinking. If alcohol is our best or preferred way to have fun, we have bigger problems. If alcohol is the best or preferred way to meet other people and lower our inhibitions, we have bigger problems. There is no legitimate excuse for our current behavior and we must not allow ourselves to use alcohol to mask other, deeper problems.

We must recognize that genuine social interaction, which causes a more joyful, valuable, and fulfilling experience, must increasingly replace alcohol consumption if we are to live up to the high standards that are—or should be—expected of each of us. I am puzzled that a college—composed of professors with PhDs, administrators with Masters degrees, and a student body with an average SAT score of 1400—has searched in vain since 1812 to find a solution. And, as always, there will be excuses and more excuses. But if we have the courage to recognize our problem, if we have the courage to work together for change, if we have the will to make a college with an elitist reputation truly be elite, we can improve ourselves as a college and as individuals. I don't want to graduate with the impression that my audacity to hope is unfounded and that I learned little outside of class but most students' preference to be intoxicated rather than have meaningful discussion with me over a cup of coffee. As this College becomes a better place, we in turn will all become better people, and each of us upon graduation will be able to make the world a better place for all of us. We can if we try. And we must.

Letters to the Editor on "Fisher Price"

The article published in the February 15th issue, entitled "Fisher Price Took My Dignity (And Alcohol)," defied the usually high standard of student journalism of The Spectator. As a second year student, and a RA in Root Hall, this piece appeared to me and many of my peers to be the trivial whining of a student who is unhappy with her room. The main problems with the dorm stated in the article were the presence of the childcare center and the stigma of living in a substance free dorm.

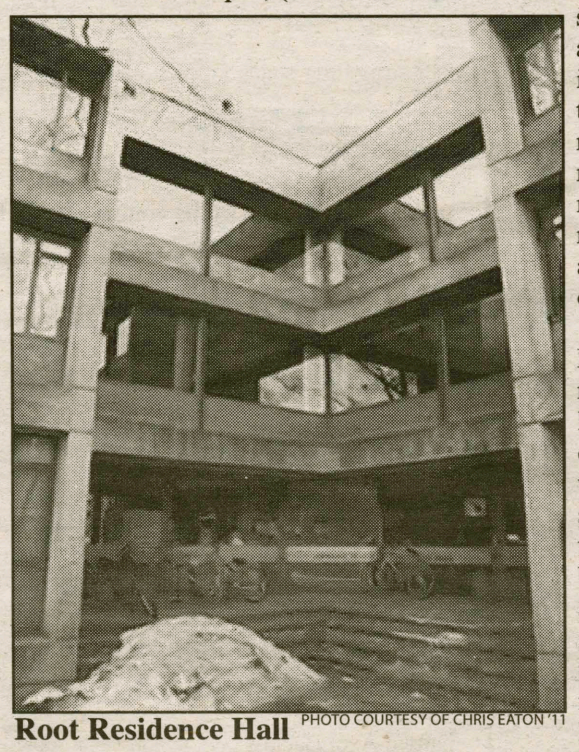
To address the first, it must be noted that many dorms share space on this campus. A student would seem unreasonable complaining that the Rainbow Alliance room is located in Keehn, or that Res-Life is located in Milbank. The childcare center is rarely an inconvenience, and blaming children who are less them five for your unhappiness seems like a cheap shot.

Secondly, most students who live in Root love it here. Even though a sizable group of residents are not here by choice, everyone has a good time. The dorm is both quiet and fun. Moreover, treating living in a substance free dorm like a social malignity is quite an overstatement. Its trite to think that living in Root would affect working either "the ladies" or the sports field. And if guys you'd want to hook up with are going to turn you away because you live in Root, please re-evaluate your choice in guys.

Judging students based simply on where they live on campus is shallow and wrong. However, personally, I do judge the author of the article in question for not checking that Root hall is named for Edward and Grace Root and not for Elihu Root.

A Hamilton student is not defined simply by their dorm, any more than by their activities or major. Perhaps if students like this author stopped perpetuating the substance free stigma, then they'd stop feeling it.

-Stephen Michel '10
Resident Advisor, Root Hall



Root Residence Hall PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRIS EATON '11

First of all, the article was never intended to make judgments. I wanted to convey my personal experience with the dorm, and if that offended some people, I apologize.

Secondly, in response to the idea of sharing space, the Rainbow Alliance represents a part of campus, and they are directly involved with campus life. The Clinton Childcare Center is not. Students might volunteer there, but there are no other connections to the campus, (as stated on the website). As for Milbank, it is for upperclassmen. Therefore, all students in Milbank acknowledge the fact that the Res Life office is there, but they made a choice to live there. I didn't get to choose whether I wanted to live with a daycare center in my building or not. There was no section on the Residence Life questionnaire for that.

Thirdly, I never blamed the Childcare Center for my "unhappiness." I think you might be taking my words a little too seriously. I didn't blame anyone. I was commenting on my personal situation, and if your personal relationship to Root dormitory is different from mine, then that's fine. I never said my comments applied to everyone in the dorm.

Fourthly, I never said Root was "quiet" and I never insinuated that the lack of alcohol made it quiet. If you think that what I said meant that sober people are quiet, that would be ridiculous, because sober people are just as loud. That being said, I have become friends with upperclassmen who live on my floor. I enjoy their company, and it's not as though we are totally separated because of our feelings about alcohol. At the same time, those upperclassmen respect the fact that I didn't request Root, and understand my frustrations.

Fifthly, my taste in guys has absolutely nothing to do with this article. This is speaking from personal experience, once again, and the dialogue I described has happened to me. I didn't say anything about my romantic interests, so I don't see how that is even relevant.

Sixthly, Edward Root was the son of Elihu Root. Grace was Edward's wife. Elihu Root is more well-known in the Hamilton Community and beyond, so I found it more fitting for the joke. Again, it's a joke, but I'm sorry if the inaccuracy was offensive.

Lastly, the substance-free stigma is a matter of what you make it. I never said I didn't have any friends on campus. My friends understand I was put there, and they don't base their judgments based on where I live. However, for a first impression living in Root hasn't always been such a great ice-breaker. The stigma is a problem, I agree, but my goal for the article was not to enforce or eliminate that stigma, but to make light of it.

I wanted to write a wry, funny piece about my experiences. I think it's a side a lot of people don't see. Instead of puke and empty cans of Keystone strewn about my dorm in the morning, I face screaming children when I wake up. I think most students see the humor in that comparison, and that was my goal.

-Brooke Rayder '11

Thumbs up

ContMag.com... Now I can tell my mom that the other website was a typo.

Wednesday night lunar eclipse, followed by Thursday night total eclipse of the heart.

Anti-hazing e-mail... because last time I checked, you volunteered to lick sh*t off my shoes. Have fun belonging, bitch.

Celebrating National Pipe-Smoking Day... 2/20. 4/20... jackpot!!!

Thumbs down

Bon Appetit et al on solving the rat problem: I mean, sometimes I'm gullible, but I'm not f^&*ing retarded.

Not being invited to brunch with Joan in Florida this Saturday. And I thought we were friends!

Chaucer in the Pub: because Middle English makes more sense when I'm wasted.

Locking Eels basement... yeah, because locking one room and depriving me of delicious cold soda is going to stop drunken frat boys from breaking things.

by Sarah Cornblath '08
& Anthony DelConte '10

Burning Questions

Instead of our "Who Cares" column, we decided to pose burning questions to the campus community in the hopes of having at least some of them answered.

How much CAN Joe Bock bench press? And can he eat a stop sign afterwards?

Who is Mr. Joan Hinde Stewart and what does he do?

Can I outrun campus safety?

Is it possible to purchase a textbook for less than the price of a conflict diamond? And on that note, is anyone interested in buying some stones?

Is Shannon Shannon's real name Shannon Shannon?

Can diversity issues be bought off with a new building?

Opening Pandora's Box: Kosovo's Independence

by John Malfetas '09
News Writer

This past Sunday, Albanians in Kosovo, holding Albanian and American flags, celebrated the unilateral independence of Kosovo from Serbia. The decision was ratified by the Kosovo parliament. Since 1999, Kosovo had been under the auspices of a UN protected, Albanian-led administration. In Kosovo, emotions, nationalism and history play a significant role in forming current politics. Kosovo has extreme symbolic value for both Serbian and Albanian nationalism. For both ethnic groups it represents a region that can simply not be given up without a fight. For the Serbs, Kosovo is the birthplace of Serbian nationalism. It is the battlefield of the 1389 Serbian defeat at the hands of the Ottoman Turks, determining the occupation of Serbia by the Ottomans for over 400 years. For the Albanians it represents a part of 'Greater Albania' and an area that has been forcibly taken away..

When the Serbian state was formed in the 19th century, it included the region of Kosovo. However, demographic changes, namely the large increase of the Albanian population in comparison with the decline of the Serbian population, made the Serbs a minority in Kosovo by the 20th century.

The communist government of Yugoslavia under Josip Broz, known as Tito, gave the region, then populated by nearly 70 percent Albanians, greater autonomy in 1974. Serb leader Slobodan Milosevic confiscated this autonomy in 1987 when Albanians constituted nearly 90 percent of the population. Milosevic played on the fears of the Serbian minority and increased the nationalist tension in the region. The surge in Serbian nationalism led to the creation of a variety of Albanian nationalistic organizations. Some were aggressive, such as the Kosovo Liberation Army, a military organization poised to break the region away from Serbia.

In 1998, tensions between the two communities increased and clashes escalated between the KLA separatist rebels and the Serbian security forces. This led to a heavy-handed reaction from the Serbian government, which forced many Albanians from their homes and created a humanitarian crisis in the area. Both sides committed severe atrocities and divided the population of the region significantly. A NATO-led bombing campaign eventually succeeded at removing Milosevic from power, and allowed UN peacekeeping troops into Kosovo to stabilize the region. Since 1999, Kosovo has been a protectorate of the UN, governed by the Albanian majority in coordination with the UN authorities.

Optimists note that Kosovo will be the first democratic, viable and multi-ethnic state in the Balkans. It will govern itself and serve as a role model for many other struggling states in the area.

A Kozovar youth celebrating Kosovo's independence. CNN.COM

Scholars note that independence was inevitable as 90 percent of the population is Albanian and wants independence.

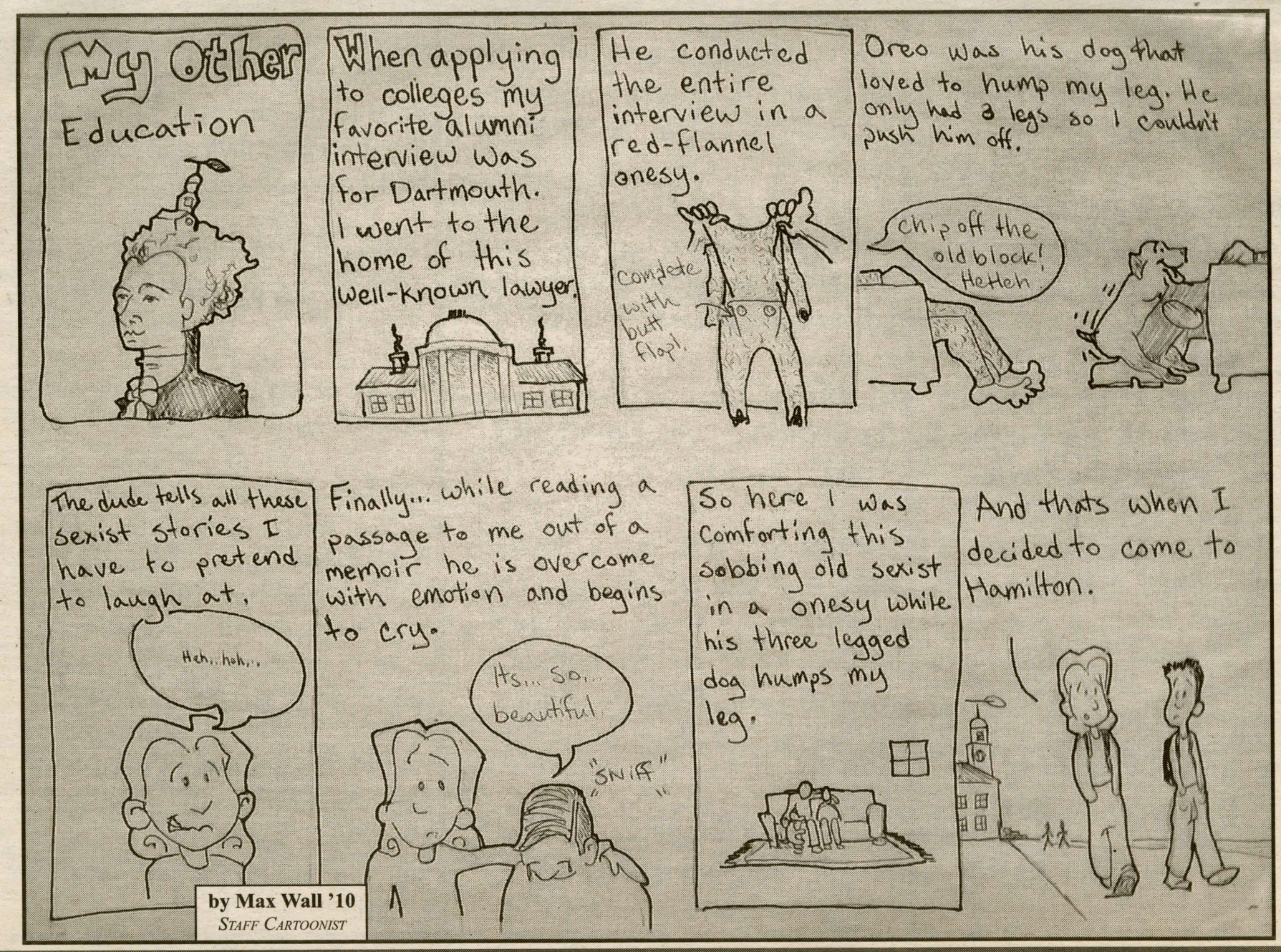
Personally, I feel that the independence has opened Pandora's Box in the Balkans once again. First, the creation of this new state in the Balkans is going to increase the divide between the Serbs and the Albanians. The relations between the two communities could not have been worse, and are bound to further deteriorate. Kosovo will basically be an ethnically-homogenous Albanian state, which negates all the modern liberal ideas of multi-ethnic, tolerant states where different ethnic groups coexist. The UN has actually supported the creation of a state across clearly defined ethnic and religious lines. It is giving the wrong message, that different ethnic groups cannot live in peace together and therefore must separate.

Secondly, the independence of Kosovo sets a dangerous international precedent, as many disputed areas may be willing to declare unilateral independence. This independence fervor will create a domino effect in many states with minority problems, such as neighboring Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Russia, China, Bulgaria and even Spain. Kosovo's independence will increase the nationalism in these states and ultimately lead to a greater escalation of violence. Portions of states will continue breaking up from larger ones, contributing to an unhealthy global environment.

Third, Kosovo is an area where there is rampant unemployment (about 60%), lack of electricity, widespread corruption, heavy crime and the absence of strong institutions. From what I have learned in the Transitions to Democracy class with Prof. Rivera, a state in such as shape is in no way going to be successful if it becomes independent. It will hardly be able to control and administer it own territory, provide protection for the Serbian minority, provide electricity and necessary social services let alone deal with the more complicated issues of controlling drug and human trafficking. As we have seen in the past, when countries are made independent too soon and without the necessary prerequisites such as strong institutions and societies, they fall apart and fail miserably.

The independence of Kosovo was a mistake, which the UN and the European Union will later regret. It is going to inflame the old hibernating ethnic tensions across volatile regions such as the Balkans and the Caucasus. The stark separation across ethnic lines within Kosovo will provide the impetus for further unrest and instability in the area. The independence will be easily linked to the jingoistic visions of a Greater Albania and of a Greater Serbia. The increase of militant nationalism, not just in the Balkans but globally, linked to violent separatist groups will not bring peace and stability.

The United Nations should have focused on building the relationships and understanding between the Albanian and Serbian communities, by enhancing education, cooperation, respect for human rights and tolerance. Instead it has further more divided and entrenched the two ethnic groups and pitted them against each other.


My Other Education
When applying to colleges my favorite alumni interview was for Dartmouth. I went to the home of this well-known lawyer.
He conducted the entire interview in a red-flannel onesy.
Complete with butt flap!
Oreo was his dog that loved to hump my leg. He only had 3 legs so I couldn't push him off.
Chip off the old block! Hehheh
The dude tells all these sexist stories I have to pretend to laugh at.
Heh.. heh..
Finally... while reading a passage to me out of a memoir he is overcome with emotion and begins to cry.
Its... so... beautiful
"SNIFF"
So here I was comforting this sobbing old sexist in a onesy while his three legged dog humps my leg.
And thats when I decided to come to Hamilton.

by Max Wall '10
Staff Cartoonist

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For details and application information, please click on "Get Career Related Experience", then "Summer Internship Funding" on our website.

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The Joseph F. Anderson Fund
available only to first years, sophomores and juniors
open to all majors and career fields
award amount range: $2500- $6000
First application deadline: Thursday, March 13th
Second application deadline: Friday, April 7th

The Richard & Patsy Couper Grant
available to all class years
preference given to students whose career interests and internship focuses on libraries/library science, museums and non-profit organizations
award amount range: $2000-$4000
Application deadline: Friday, April 7th

The George & Martha Darcy Internship Support Fund
available to those who have completed their junior year of college
internship will support internships in the following fields: communications, writing, advertising/public relations, publishing, print journalism, telecommunications
applicants must have at least a B average
award amount range: will not exceed $3500
applicants must clearly demonstrate financial need
application deadline: April 7th

The Jeffrey Fund Science Internship
available to first years, sophomores and juniors
funding is to support internships in the sciences
award amount range: $2500-$6000
Application deadline: Thursday, March 13th

The Monica Odening Student Internship & Research Fund In Mathematics
available only to first years, sophomores and juniors
funding is provided to support off-campus study in mathematics
award amount: up to $2800
Application deadline: Friday, April 7th

The Summer Internship Support Fund
This fund will provide cost of living assistance to students who might have insufficient resources to fully support undertaking a summer internship, including a paid or unpaid opportunity
available to first years, sophomores and juniors
applicants must demonstrate financial need
award amount range: $3000-$4000
Application deadline: Friday, April 7th

Class of 2006 Fund
available to first years, sophomores and juniors
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application deadline: Friday, April 7th

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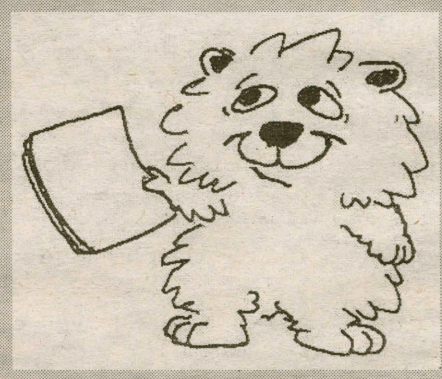

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Ttyl, Professor! Office Hours Move To Cyberspace At Nation's Colleges

by Olivia B. Waxman '11
FEATURES WRITER

Universities across the country are giving students more reason to stay glued to their computers. Professors at state and Ivy League schools have started instituting office hours online, using AOL Instant Messenger, Skype, and video conferencing applications like Elluminate to make themselves more accessible to students outside of the classroom.

According to The National Survey of Student Engagement, the increased use of information technologies stimulates student interest and enhances student-teacher communication. With this fact in mind, David Malan of Harvard's Computer Science department launched virtual office hours last fall to supplement his traditional face-to-face office hours, the first program of its kind at the university. Students taking "Introduction to Computer Science" can interact with Malan's teaching fellows through live, online help forums powered by the communications software Elluminate. Participants pose questions by typing them out or talking through their computer's microphone. Elluminate is especially effective for digitally-oriented classes, as T.A.s can manipulate a student's computer in order to explain an answer.

A dozen undergraduate teaching assistants for Cornell's "Introduction to Web Design and Programming" class organized a similar program this year using AOL Instant Messenger. The T.A.s field students' instant messages under a joint screen name, a process that they find faster and less plodding than email correspondences. "It's certainly less personally intrusive than me getting their cell phone number and calling them back with an answer," former professor of the class David Williamson told Wendy Wang of *The Cornell Daily Sun* in "Office Hours Get New Online Look."

But now even phone conversations can be conducted on the Web. Accounting Lecturer Richard Lillie of California State University-San Bernardino chats with pupils through Skype, a free calling application that enables users to talk online through their computers, though students must have headsets, microphones, and webcams to use this program. "Even though we're using technology, we can talk and work with each other as if we're sitting in the same office," Lillie told *USA Today*'s Angela Haupt in "Professors help students virtually."

In fact, Hamilton students would find such technology helpful for minor questions that come up outside of the classroom, especially at night.

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"I think [online office hours] would make a large difference in the amount of student-professor interaction, *particularly* for small things, such as tiny questions or misunderstandings," Rouvan Mahmud '11 said. "I would not right now leave the comfort of my dorm and walk in this cold just to ask a tiny question."

Sophie Vershbow '11, a graduate of Friends Seminary in New York City, told *The Spectator* that her high school teachers would set up chatrooms the night before a big test. Vershbow remembers those online sessions being "so helpful because not only did you get help from the teacher, but you got help from everyone else in the class."

These online communication programs are especially helpful to students studying abroad, like Eric Kuhn '09, who is spending the year at the London School of Economics. Kuhn corresponds with his advisor, Government Professor Frank Anechiarico, via Skype. "He sits in his office and I sit in London and he advises me," Kuhn said. "The technology is amazing in my situation because of that pond between us!"

However, students and administrators, including Dean of Faculty Joseph Urgo, do not think online office hours should replace traditional tete-a-tetes entirely, arguing that there is no substitute for face-to-face meetings that are hallmarks of the college experience.

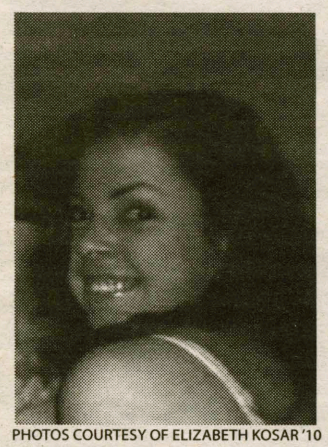
"Professors use e-mail, web sites, instant messaging, and other technologies to increase their accessibility to students," said Urgo. "But at Hamilton, where personal interaction is among our core values, these technologies are all additive; they cannot replace the standard, which we continue to find valuable and incapable of simulation, of the face-to-face, sit-down experience between the student and the professor, talking."

In addition, multi-part questions are too difficult to type out, according to Arielle Cutler '11. "I feel like the few times I have met with professors face-to-face, it was essential that we were in fact face-to-face," Cutler said. "These times generally consisted of further explanation of a concept, clarification of an assignment, things where it would be awkward and too complicated to communicate virtually." Chemistry major Katie Donahue '08 concurs, pointing out that "explaining Chemistry over an e-mail is hard. Also there is something nice about sitting down and talking face-to-face with a professor. Feels like you know them a little more."

Looking ahead, Nora Goddard '11 observes that these live-action, mini mentoring sessions are preparation for the world beyond academia: "Talking to older, more experienced people is a skill necessary for most professions, so students should begin now, while in school, instead of afterwards, where the lack of knowing how to have a conversation with a superior could be detrimental."

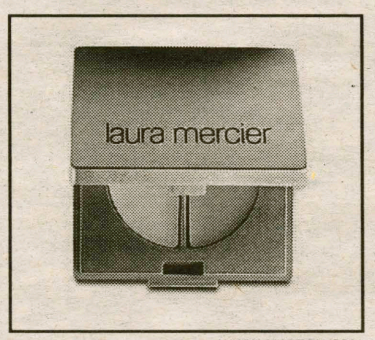
Lotions & Potions: Liz's Top Five Items

by Elizabeth Kosar '10
BEAUTY COLUMNIST


PHOTOS COURTESY OF ELIZABETH KOSAR '10

So here's a concept I never thought that I would be familiar with-the beauty blahs. Maybe it's because it's February, maybe it's because beauty products are getting more expensive, maybe it's all the research about what some of the chemicals in products can do to you. Whatever it is, I'm in this negative place when it comes to products. I'm convinced that there are a handful of things people actually need and everything else is junk. But because there are still things I need/love/would throw a temper tantrum without, I've compiled a list of my top 5 beauty products.

Laura Mercier Undercover-Contains her best-selling Secret Camoflage and Secret Concealer. The former keeps me from looking like a plague victim, and the latter makes me look like I've actually gotten a reasonable amount of sleep, instead of watch 30 Rock when I should be studying.



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Aquaphor-This is made from petroleum which is a non-renewable resource. Aka it is my beauty guilt. I feel like I need to go to confession whenever I slather it on. But it works so well for chapped lips, dry skin, split ends, and scrapes that I really can't give it up.

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Origins Clean Energy Face Oil-The whole concept of face oil as being a cleanser and working for oily skin still seems rather shady to me, but whatever, I don't care because it softens my skin AND gets it cleans, AND doesn't smell like something you clean a toilet with.

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Aveda Phomollient-I have approxiamately 30,000 fewer hairs than most people. My hair is ridiculously fine. I can wash it and hours later it looks greasy because there is just no hair on my head. You know those freakish people who wash their hair like once a week and don't smell like a rodent/look like you could shine the floor with their head? I'm the anti-thesis of that. Anyway this "styling foam" gives my pathetic hair volume and miracle of miracles, keeps my hair clean for twice as long.

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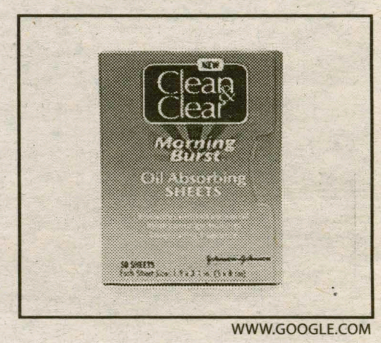
Clean & Clear Oil Absorbing Sheets-A bizarre invention. Who was sitting around one day and thought-huh I'm going to make something that blots off oil without adding more make-up? Well whoever they were I want to give them a lap dance because these little things rock. They get rid of oil, you can use them over make-up, and they're cheap.



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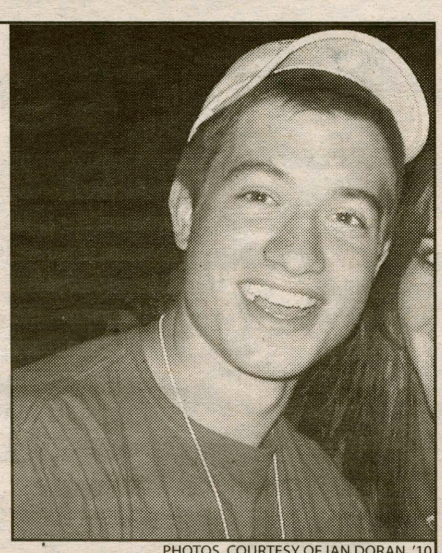
Bachelor & Bachelorette of the Week

Ian Doran'10



PHOTOS COURTESY OF IAN DORAN '10

Age: 19
Eye Color: Brown.
Height: 6' 1"
Sign: Crabs.
Hometown: Maple Grove, MN.
Major: World Politics & German.
On Campus Activities: Exiles Rugby, Publius Society, Strategic Planning Committee.
Interested In: Men / Erica Pettis
What You Are Looking For Now: A few good men.

Ideal Date:

On Campus: A trip to the rock wall, romp in the glen, hot chocolate at opus and to top it off, copious amounts of "apple juice" at that evenings festivities.

Off Campus: Lately I have been itching to go skiing, ya know?! Shred it up, rip dank sicknasty tricks on the slopes. So, I guess a day trip to Snowridge or Toggenburg.

Turn Ons: Closeted Frat-boys, muscles, five o'clock shadows, heavy breathing, intelligence, sarcasm and confidence.

Turn Offs: Limb wrists and or limb…. anything for that matter.

Dating Deal Makers: When out to dinner, when asked what he would like to drink, the guy responds: " A Guinness."

Dating Deal Breakers: Women, bad breathe, over confidence.

Favorites

Place On Campus: The hammocks on the Glen house porch.
Exercise At The Gym: All things abs.
Gift to give: Something personal.
Gift to get: A good book.
Song: Lupe Fiasco Super Star.
Book: *Absolutely American* - David Lipsky, prior to Hamilton I was all set to go to West Point, in the end I was unable to attend due to medical restrictions. Any who, the book is an amazing description of life at West Point and provides incredible insight into the military, our nation, and life as a cadet. Check it: *The Road* – Cormac McCarthy.
Movie: "The History Boys" directed by Nicholas Hytner.
"Guilty Pleasure" Song: "LaLa", by Ashlee Simpson.
"Guilty Pleasure" Movie: Marie Antoinette.
Celeb Crush: Hayden Christianson, Channing Tatum.
Breakfast: Oatmeal with craisins, a bowl of fruit, two hard boiled eggs, and a glass of orange juice.
Sitcom: "The L Word."
Quote: "Be Good, Be Kind, and Peace you'll find."

If I could go anywhere in the world I would go to: Büchenburg, Germany, where my grandmother has a little cottage on the mountain side. I have had a lot of fun there over the years and always feel at peace when I am with my oma.
The best pick-up line I have used: (look at his / her butt) "That must be jelly, because jam don't shake like that!"
The best pick-up line that has worked on me: "Yo, wanna go half-zies on a baby?"
If I were out with a date and were charged by a bear I would:

A) Throw my date in front of the bear and run
B) Expose my breast to the bear and scream "Take me instead!"
C) Team up and try to fight the bear
D) Other: Probably use the phrase "Ohh, fuck!" a lot and do a bit of running… or else "Put it on a leash and whip it." -Savannah Knell '10

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NOMINATIONS!

Compiled by Erin Hoener, Managing Editor

Meghan Pollak '08

PHOTO COURTESY OF MEGHAN POLLAK '08

Age: 21
Eye Color: Oh, I'm one of those kids whose eyes change color.
Height: 5'10"
Sign: Strong Aries sun sign, but my ascendant and Moon are both in Gemini, Venus is in Taurus…should I go on?
Hometown: Wilton, CT..yeah, it's in Fairfield County..know where that is?
Major: English and French.
On Campus Activities: I am the Spinning master that kicks people's asses, sailing captain, French Club and Muslim Club…kind of, techno DJ aka DJ Eve.
Interested In: PIRATES, being a pirate, any techno music, dressing up as a dead bride on Halloween, screwing up people's lives with my Tarot Cards, epic movies like 300 and Lord of the Rings, Mortal Kombat, amphibious creatures.
What You Are Looking For Now: Jack Sparrow, King Leonidas, Aragorn, or a Sagittarius…that's pretty-much it.

Ideal Date:

On Campus: Playing Mortal Kombat/ Lord of the Rings…you have to be Legolas because he sucks, going to the Rok dressed in absurd costumes so the townies get mad at us.

Off Campus: Snowboarding, taking a casual trip down to Madagascar, watching professional hockey fights.

Turn Ons: Someone that can kick my ass at something (it's hard to do because I am an evolved species), accents, Brazilians, a tecktonik dancer, someone that smells good (no effin' AXE!).

Turn Offs: Insecurity, non-epicness, people that suck at Guitar Hero, people that eat less than I do, hair gel.

Dating Deal Makers: Challenging me to Mario Kart (I will beat you), handing me a Dark n'Stormy that is really spicy, if you start speaking French.

Dating Deal Breakers: If you suck at MOing you are a waste of life, if I find out you actually like Tom Brady I will think you are a horrible person

Favorites

Place On Campus: The Spinning studio, my inferno of a room at 1 dub zero CHR.
Exercise At The Gym: My frickin spinning class bien sur, chilling with the coolest man alive, Coach Adey.
Gift to give: Tarot Card reading, a damn good hand massage.
Gift to get: a massage! A PS3, a trip to Madagascar, magical stones, a new dry suit for frostbite sailing.
Song: "San Francisco" by Global Deejays.
Book: Any erotica.
Movie: Right now it is 300…I watch it every night
"Guilty Pleasure" Song: "This is Halloween" from Nightmare Before Christmas..I'm actually not that ashamed about it.
Guilty Pleasure" Movie: Miami Vice. It has virtually no plot, but great music and an awesome sex scene
Celeb Crush: Obviously it's Johnny Depp.
Breakfast: I eat 2 muffins every morning from Commons. If they aren't there I have a melt down and don't go to class.
Sitcom: "Big Love"…Mormons are so twisted.
Quote: "Tonight we dine in Hell!"

If I were an animal I would be: A shark because there is nothing more powerful than being able to terrify people and rip their limbs off. I also like the idea of having sharp teeth.
If I could go anywhere in the world I would go to: Anywhere because all I want to do in life is travel. If I had to choose though, I'd say an Islamic African country.
If I were a character from English lit, I would be: Moll Flanders because I too have had 12 kids and five husbands, about thirty lovers, and I am a notorious thief.
The best pick-up line I have used: Just saying something in French/ offering someone a Dark n'Stormy.
The best pick-up line that has worked on me: You have the fingernails of a Goddess, they are so sexy…let us dance (said in a Brazilian accent).
If I were out with a date and were charged by a bear I would:

A) Throw my date in front of the bear and run
B) Expose my breast to the bear and scream "Take me instead!"
C) Team up and try to fight the bear
D) Other: Stab the bear in the eye and then cut its head off with my Spartan sword.

HauteLife: A Conversation With Micaela Chappell, London's Super-Styling Star

by Nonyelum Chizea '08
Fashion Columnist

COURTESY OF MICAELA CHAPPELL

Micaela Chappell

Whether it is shopping around vintage stores hunting for fashion treasures in Soho, London, or responding to my random 2a.m. (UK time) texts, my sister **Micaela Chappell** always has a minute for fashion. As a current Cultural Geography student at Royal Holloway, University of London, Micaela enjoys being a full time student, part time runway model and stylist. On the weekends you can find Micaela around Nightingale Shot, Egham in her staple outfit of flat black boots, thick tights, a floral print dress and a slouchy cream knit hat sipping champagne cocktails (at Sketch in London in particular) and eating tons of seafood – "shrimpets" as she calls them. While in "prison" also known as The Farringtons School in Kent, UK, we were both 12 years old, liked math (Mica won several prizes for being a math buff), played the violin, competed for our house, Davies House, to win the sports, music and drama house cups against Wilson and Fisher Houses in addition to eating toast with warm butter and sugar in West House, against Mrs. Mentchen's wishes. Mrs. Mentchen was our very strict house mum whose teeth will forever remind us of the perils ahead lest we forgot to brush our teeth after our late night sugar fixes.

Now some crazy ten years later, we rekindled the flame that bonded us so strongly with our love for fashion. I visited Micaela last March to watch her model in the Royal Holloway Seven Deadly Sins Fashion Show where she was cast for Greed, Envy, and was in the Carnival finale. It was amazing to see how she had transformed into a little fashion icon. In this edition of *HauteLife*, I am taking you across the pond to see what the magnificent Brits have to offer. Enjoy.

Chizea: Who is your style icon?
Chappell: My style icon is T4 Television presenter **Alexa Chung**, who hangs out with *Burberry* starlet **Agyness Dyen**. Chung is your typical glam girl about town because she always looks stunning and leaves me envious! She's so unique on her take of trends and styles and manages to flatter her shape and make every outfit look like it was made especially for her!

TELEGRAPH.CO.UK

Television's Alexa Chung

Chizea: What is your favorite piece of clothing?
Chappell: I love my biscuit colored, oversized knitted cardigan from *Zara*. It keeps me warm on these cold English days!

Chizea: You are quite the student, juggling classes, working, and modeling. When and where was your first fashion show?
Chappell: My first professional show was when my good friend and fellow Farringtonian, **Jenna Spargo**, and I were asked to model in *Puente Romano Hotel Fashion Show* while we were on holiday in Spain. We modeled bikinis, eveningwear, golf wear and wedding dresses. I have to say that the wedding dress fittings were so much fun. I tried on about 10 dresses and although I didn't really understand the designer (as she didn't speak any English and my Spanish was patchy), we had great fun.

PHOTO COURTESY JENNA SPARGO

Jenna Spargo Modelling

Chizea: We you nervous about the show?
Chappell: I had modeled before for shows at my university for charity so I had some experience, but this one was professional so of course I was. Luckily, the designers were backstage and were very encouraging. I also had a couple of glasses of champagne to help ease my butterflies.

Chizea: Recently, you went to the *Armani Privè Show* in Paris with Jenna. What did you like about it?
Chappell: First of all, *Armani Privè* is **Giorgio Armani's** haute couture line that made history for being the first haute couture Paris fashion show. *Armani Privè* is only made to wear and not available for purchase in stores. The styles can be ordered and tailored, but at a very high price. As for the show this year, I liked the tailored jeweled jackets teamed with oversized bell skirts. They were a big look at Armani. Every jacket was textured and 3D. The intricate beading glistened in the light and the sleek silk skirts brought volume and sophistication -a perfectly balanced ensemble for S/S 08. Most of all I loved the dresses because it appeared that you would wear them out to a very formal event, like *The British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA)* or request a color change to have them made as a wedding dress.

Chizea: What direction do you think Paris fashion is going in terms of what you saw at the Armani show?
Chappell: Paris has always been and will continue to be a forerunner in global fashion. A lot can be learned from the Parisian strong, simple, classic shapes. They never fail to dazzle and they do so effortlessly. At the Armani show, Giorgio showed that Paris is still the forerunner in fashion because of the intricate and very sophisticated way he manipulates fabrics. Vive la France!

Chizea: In contrast with Paris fashions, what do you love about London and how will you compare that with New York fashion? (Keep in mind that Americans tend to dress for comfort).
Chappell: Londoners are at ease with themselves when it comes to fashion. They are fearless and always willing to try new things. Unfortunately we often get it wrong. However, most of the time our outlandish combinations somehow seem to work themselves out. London has such a unique, urban, edgy style and that is what I love love love about it! I would say that New York fashion is perhaps more tame, but stunning and chic. New Yorkers are at times afraid to try new looks, which is why we over here see that they mimic London styles, but sometimes add a little New York sassiness to it.

Chizea: So what do you currently love at the moment? I know from visiting your wardrobe that you are a style whore.
Chappell: At the moment, I am making bold statements and I am enjoying the following:
-Crazy colored nail varnish, especially yellow
-White heels with my jeans, instead of black
-Textured dresses; big knit prints and velvet
- Leather jackets are very in once again except this time it is the short-cropped tight styles. I love grey ones (makes a change from the obvious black!)
-I love these shoes from Topshop. They are the Premium high open front shoe boot with ribbon tie at front.

TOPSHOP.COM

Chizea: What should we over here expect to see this New Year?
Chappell: It seems as though the whole world looks to us and the French for some style advice. Americans should watch out for:
-small injections of leopard print with dress. This is very different from the craze of leopard print dresses though. You will find people wearing bright colored tights and leopard skin heels, leopard skin bracelet with a nice black dress or even a big chunky leopard print belt over coats
- I love sequins and sequins are taking over everything from sequin covered shorts, jackets, dresses, and even sequin trousers much like the one **Victoria Beckham** wore not too long ago
-high waists and big belts. Fashion world wide is now reinventing the cinched waists with belts over everything, tops, dresses, coats etc.
-additionally, there is a great revival of boy dressing (girls wearing boyish clothing like suits); lots of bright neon colors and of course a hippie look.

Chizea: Since you are something of an expert trend spotter, what can you predict will be in style this summer?
Chappell: (laughs) Ok, I will give it a go. Watch out for White lace. There was a small visitation of lace last autumn, but this time I think lace is here to stay because it is so elegant. For example, you can wear a nice white lace dress or pair up a nice mini-skirt with black lace print tights. I also think that denim dresses this trademark style of the 90s is going to make an even edgier comeback. It was so unfortunate that **Britney Spears** and **Justin Timberlake** scared people away from the style a few years ago, but now people have recovered from the shock of it and are going to love wearing denim again!

Chizea: What is your favorite Fashion quote?
Chappell: (laughs) Well, it seems that everyone over here knows that my trademark look is some sort of dress. I can go to shops or class or travel to a show and I will always wear a dress because you can never go wrong with that and it is classy. My favorite quote is by **Hubert de Givenchy**. Givenchy said, "*The dress must follow the body of a woman, not the body following the shape of the dress.*" I think this is important in this day and age where young girls try to force themselves to fit different styles. Young women these days need to learn to understand and love their shape and shop for that. I think if every woman did that they will definitely increase their self-esteem by 100%.

Write for Features!

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Do you have a unique idea for an article that just doesn't fit in any other section of the Spectator?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, you could be a Features writer. Contact rmintzer or dsadove for details.

Weekly Charts

by Jacob Murray '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

MUSIC
(From iTunes)

Top Albums
1. Sleep Through the Static - Jack Johnson
2. Across The Universe - Various Artists
3. Step Up 2 The Streets - Various Artists
4. Black to Black - Amy Winehouse
5. Juno - Various Artists

Top Songs
1. Low - Flo Rida
2. Don't Stop the Music - Rihanna
3. Love Song - Sara Bareilles
4. With You - Chis Brown
5. See You Again - Miley Cyrus

MOVIES
(Yahoo! Box Office Charts)
1. Jumper
2. The Spiderwick Chronicles
3. Step Up 2 The Streets
4. Fool's Gold
5. Definitely, Maybe
6. Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins
7. Juno
8. The Bucket List
9. Hannah Montana & Miley Cyrus
10. 27 Dresses

BOOKS
(From The New York Times Best Seller List)

Paperback Fiction
1. THE PILLARS OF THE EARTH, by Ken Follett
2. ATONEMENT, by Ian McEwan
3. WATER FOR ELEPHANTS, by Sara Gruen
4. THE 6TH TARGET, by James Patterson
5. THE KITE RUNNER, by Khaled Hosseini

Paperback Non-Fiction
1. EAT, PRAY, LOVE, by Elizabeth Gilbert
2. THREE CUPS OF TEA, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin
3. THE AUDACITY OF HOPE, by Barack Obama
4. THE GIFT OF FEAR, by Gavin de Becker
5. THE INNOCENT MAN, by John Grisham

IMF's Top 6 Albums of 2007 Released

by Winston Cook-Wilson '09, Tom James '11, Tom Lewek '09, Travis Mockler '11, Rory Pavach '10, Chris Rand '09 and Brendan Welsh '10

For the third week in a row, the Independent Music Fund brings your their top albums of 2007! This week, *the Spectator* reveals the top six!

6. M.I.A. – Kala

For many musicians, initial success is not nearly as daunting as the prospect of the follow up album that may solidify their reputations or end their careers. Mathangi "M.I.A." Arulpragasam, the Sri Lankan electro-hip-hop diva, did not seem daunted by the critical acclaim given to her Mercury nominated debut, *Arular*. *Kala* picks up on the brazen attitude and gritty production of its predecessor, but conveys somewhat of a different message. In the artist's own words, "This one is about my mum and her struggle—how do you work, feed your children, nurture them and give them the power of information?" The opening track, "Bamboo Banger" is just that, beginning with droning tones mixed over a thumping electro-clash beat that somehow evolves into an uptempo club jam whose vigor does not cease until the album's end. The vast majority of the album is produced by M.I.A. and truly displays her talent as a musician outside of mere lyricism. She employs a diverse catalog of obscure samples, ranging from Bollywood anthems on "Jimmy" and the classic Pixies track, "Where is My Mind?" on "20 Dollar" to the shrieks of birds and children alike on "Bird Flu". *Kala* is both a boisterous electro hip-hop assault and a witty social commentary that evokes images of both glamour and excess as well as extreme poverty and hope. A phenomenal tour-de-force, M.I.A. has truly solidified her place among the great musicians in this decade.

5. Justice – Cross

Gaspard Augé and Xavier de Rosnay have perspective. As adolescents, both were far more interested in hard rock and heavy metal and, as mature beat-making adults, both retain enough Parisian aloofness not to care about the conventions of European techno. With *Cross*, these two elements collide to create an album full of infectious, loud, rock-driven dance songs. Try if you must, but, after listening to Justice, you cannot escape the urge to queue up outside the club for hours only to lose yourself in their pulsating rhythms until the morning comes.

IMF's Number 1 Album: *Person Pitch* WWW.WIKIPEDIA.ORG

4. LCD Soundsystem – Sound of Silver

Signifying the maturation of DFA headman James Murphy, *Sound of Silver* combines a slicker, dancier sound perfected in his *45:33* opus with flawlessly composed lyrics in a way LCD's self-titled debut simply could not. Murphy's influenced dance-punk-turned- electro-disco truly comes to fruition with touching, yet body-moving songs like "Someone Great," "North American Scum" and "Get Innocuous." After inducing heavy dancing with his production and heartfelt chuckles with his lyrics, Murphy finally hits us palpable with his darkly clever ballad "New York I Love You, But You're Bringing Me Down," illustrating his diverse, yet impeccable, songwriting abilities.

3. The Field – From Here We Go Sublime

Tirelessly minimalist and joyously melodic, the debut record from The Field brings an altogether new sound to electronic music. Axel Willner elongates each blissed-out, repetitive phrase as far as sonically possible until we can do nothing but slowly sink into the vast, yet simple soundscape he creates. Through its deceptively imitable beauty, *From Here We Go Sublime* became one of the most dynamically gorgeous and unavoidable releases of 2007.

2. Animal Collective- Strawberry Jam

This is the eighth full-length offering by New York-based experimental pop shapeshifters Animal Collective, and their third album to assault the indie-pop mainstream with alacrity. This album highlights Avey Tare and Panda Bear's increasingly complex songcraft, characterized by schizophrenic melodies and verbose lyrics (a style experiment which began in earnest with their 2005 album, *Feels*). As opposed to the ambient acoustic textures favored on a number of their earlier offerings, *Strawberry Jam* speeds by thanks to pulsating electronic accompaniment, piano samples and delayed electric guitar washes, punctuated by tom-heavy tribal percussion. Listen to "For Reverend Green."

1. Panda Bear – Person Pitch

Over the past year, reviewers have labeled Panda Bear's *Person Pitch* with adjectives ranging from "overwhelming" to "inspirational." These descriptions, however, are not by necessity mutually exclusive. Certainly, with sprawling samples and a substantial use of loops, the album can seem overwhelming. Yet, beneath all the layers, the listener can find clear moods dwelling within each song. Panda Bear's melodies evoke the sunshine pop of the Beach Boys and Brian Wilson, while his composition submerges the music in mystery. Such a combination ultimately makes *Person Pitch* both welcoming and challenging. After a thorough listen, through the warm melodies and extensive soundscapes, the listener may very well feel inspired.

Buffers Ignite My Valentine's Day

by Jackie Schuck '10
Arts & Entertainment Writer

At 6:21 AM last Valentine's Day, I was awoken to the sound of about 15 guys harmonizing outside my bedroom door. I soon came to realize it was the Buffers singing Boyz II Men's "I'll Make Love to You" to my suitemate, a little surprise from her boyfriend. Smart choice, Buddy. You spent five dollars to serenade her with a song like that and I'm sure you probably got whatever you wanted from her that night. Gentlemen, follow this guy's lead. Now, what was my take on this little spectacle, as a single girl in the early morning hours of a holiday focused on blissfully happy couples and their feelings of love? I shook my friend's boyfriend's hand. Thank you for providing me with 15 hot males standing outside my bedroom door singing about making love. One fantasy down…so many others to go.

So, this highly appreciated early wake-up call prompted me to head over to the gym – I know there's a hottie doing bench press there just waiting for me. I do my 30 minute cardio treadmill speed walking and lift some five pound weights in front of said bench press hottie – impressive, right? After my workout, I return to the little locker room to gather my belongings so that I can go back to my suite and take a much needed hot shower. As I am doing this, I notice the Buffers come waltzing in through the gym doors. The extremely embarrassed red faced girl is serenaded "Love Me Tender," the three dollar Buffergram which says I don't like you enough to spend two more dollars and choose a song specifically for you. Ecstatic once again to see and hear the Buffers, I sit swaying back and forth while singing along with every word. Twice in one day? I'm lucky I get to see the Buffers perform twice in one semester!

Finally ready to depart from the gym, I go to retrieve my coat when I am stopped by one Buffer who says to me, "BUFFERGRAM!" This followed by a chorus of "Buffergram!" in perfect triads and a group of guys cornering me in this little locker room. With two guys on either side of me, four kneeling at my feet, and the rest standing behind them, the Buffers began to sing R. Kelly's "Ignition" to me. Amidst their *toot toot*'s and *beep beep*'s, I could not help but laugh hysterically at this scene – there are a group of the finest looking boys on campus telling me they want to stick their key into my ignition and I look like a sweaty, hot mess after just working out for an hour. With all of them so close, one with his arm around me, I just hoped I did not reek that bad. Needless to say, that long, hot shower I wanted to take turned into a long, cold shower. My dearest secret admirer – I have to thank you with providing me the best Valentine's gift ever: there is no better gift for a single lady then a group of hot guys singing inappropriate lyrics in a very public place. I would love to meet you "in the hotel lobby." To anyone who complained about being woken up early by a Buffergram – you are either jealous you did not receive one or jealous that you are not a Buffer (I mean, no girl can resist the combination of good-looks and musical talent). To the Buffers – I live in Babbitt 23. You are all most welcome to stop by anytime and demo some new Buffergram options for next year. Really.

Deathcage Results: Week 2!

by Jacob Murray '09 and Kevin O'Connor '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

(2) Indiana Jones def. (31) Global Warming Polar Bear
Harrison Ford doesn't believe in global warming. Or PETA. Oh and here's an inconvenient truth, don't call him junior.

(3) Morgan Freeman def. (30) Rachel Ray
We wonder if she had a chance to finish off her "bucket list."

(4) Professor McGonagall def. (29) Helen Keller
We did not see this one coming… and neither did Helen.

(28) Tina Fey def. (5) Eddie Murphy
Must have been karma for making "Pluto Nash."

(6) Hannibal Lecter def. (27) Ferris Bueller
Flesh just tastes better after it has skipped school.

(7) Tyler Durdan def. (26) Anderson Cooper
Durdan pounds Cooper with 360° of pain. Spectators of the match noted a surprising level of homoeroticism between combatants.

(8) Dionysus def. (25) Green Goblin
This Greek God creates destruction with a combination of muscle and alcohol. Believe it or not, the battle did not take place in Eells basement.

(24) Wayne Gretzky def. (9) Chris Hansen
Wayne Gretzky was lured into the ring with a group of barely legal ring girls. But when they go to get "lemonade" Chris Hansen jumps out of nowhere and offers his signature "Hi, you're a pedophile and we're on tv." Only this time NBC wasn't there to protect him and let's just say ol' Wayne doesn't like surprises. Oh Canada!

(10) Boba Fett def. (23) Allen Ginsburg
Beat poet receives a massive beat-down.

(22) Kool-Aid Man def. (11) Bear Grylls
After being exposed as a fraud, Grylls can't even survive a fictional pitcher of juice. OH YEAH.

(12) G.I. Joe def. (21) Chef Boyardee
G.I. Joe reminds us that nothing is more American than taking a bite out of Chef Boyardee.

(20) Gaston def. (13) Mel Gibson
"No one's slick as Gaston, no one's quick as Gaston and no one's… as incredibly thick as Gaston," even Mel Gibson.

(14) Johnny "Drama" Chase def. (19) Chandler Bing
Wasn't he in Viking Quest?

(15) Ann Coulter def. (18) Aaron Burr
Too bad one of them had to live.

(17) Tiger Woods def. (16) Brangelina
This was obviously Sunday Tiger.

FEATURE MATCH: (1) Wolverine def. (32) Bono
"Yeah yeah yeah yeah yeah"… no! So we thought Bono would win at this just like everything else. And believe us, he came on strong by inviting the orphan population of Namibia, whose education he pays for (incidentally), to join him in a stirring harmonic assault. Things changed, however, when an audience member, recognizing the X-man needed help, launched an explosive device into the ring but Bono unexpectedly knew "how to dismantle an atomic bomb" before it turned "Sunday bloody Sunday." Still the distraction was enough to give Wolverine a chance to prove that having claws is, in fact, "the sweetest thing."

Album of the Week

Mars Volta - *The Bedlam in Goliath*

by Kate Payne '10
Arts & Entertainment

How many progressive rock bands can say they're a mixture of funk metal, psychedelic, jazz, electronica, salsa, and punk? You now know of at least one. A band that could easily be described as the black of music, Mars Volta's meshing of almost every genre created doesn't produce the giant contradiction one would expect. The range of styles used in a single song can make it seem like you're listening to a symphony packed full of diverse and exciting movements. That's not to say that there's anything orchestral about this band. At first listen Mars Volta sounds like a pissed off Freddie Mercury crooning over the chaotic energy of a metal rock group. *The Bedlam in Goliath* rarely slows from the sprint that it takes starting with the album's very first song. You're immediately thrown into the first track's chorus and, like a schoolyard bully with an existential crisis, Mars Volta doesn't look back as they bombard the listener with classic metal guitar amid electronic doodlings that sound nothing short of spacey, all in close proximity to the lead singer's catchy falsetto. Mars Volta then proceeds to give you an album that is as high in energy as a supermarket Super Ball. To say that this group is one of those bands that you either "love or hate" is a cop out in the strongest sense of the word. Give it a listen and if it's not your cup of tea, then you still can't hate the guys who wrote an entire album about a run-in they had with a Ouija board.

Love to write? Love books, music or movies? E-mail jdmurray to write for A&E!

Hamilton Horoscopes

By Jackie Schuck '10
Staff Seer

Aries – Put down that book, break up with your significant other, and stop updating your Facebook profile every 8 seconds. The writer's strike is over and you need to catch up on your primetime television needs. Your Best Match: Dwight K. Shrute.

Taurus – You are going to receive a surprise this week and it's going to be in your Commons lunch. Yeah, a little rodent told me he will have his revenge. Your Worst Match: Mac and Cheese.

Gemini – You need a make-over. Put away the sweatpants, limit your Commons pizza intake, and stop hooking up with that skeeze down the hall – really, you're starting to get a bad rep. Your Major Turn On: Cooties.

Cancer – You will have so much work this coming week. That's what you get when you sleep through the entire weekend because of that hangover you acquired Thursday night. Your Major Turn Off: Intelligence.

Leo – So you finally got that hottie Orgo Lab partner you'd been eyeing all semester. However, the stars feel you would prosper in a group setting. Maybe you should find another lab duo and invite them over Saturday night to work on your…chemistry. Best Attribute: Openness.

Virgo – You are going to be inclined to try some new things this week. That's fine, just close your blinds. No one else wants to see you do that. Biggest Flaw: Too Much Openness.

Libra – You will have to make a difficult decision this week. My advice? Just go with it. Your Best Match: Anyone in Babbitt 23. REPRESENTIN'.

Scorpio – Are you thinking it can't get any worse? Well, apparently you have never been to Open Hour. Think you aren't depressed enough? The next meeting is February 27. Your Worst Match: President Joan Hinde Stewart.

Sagittarius – You've just started something new. It may appear to be a good decision, but are there really any good decisions that originate from an Annex party? Your Major Turn On: Eating Disorders.

Capricorn – In a relationship? You may be tempted to cheat. Don't do it…with your partner's roommate. That's just asking to be caught. Not in a relationship? Well, maybe someone would like you if you weren't such an ass. Your Major Turn Off: Monogamy.

Aquarius – Did you have a cruddy Valentine's Day? Well, how is that different from every other day of the year? Get over it. Best Attribute: Looking on the Brightside.

Pisces – Surprisingly enough, people actually care about what you think. Take advantage of this because next week you will be so 5 minutes ago…like Fidel Castro. Biggest Flaw: IBS.

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●12:00●2:10-4:20-6:30▲8:40 DTS PG

SAMUEL L. JACKSON STADIUM SEATING
JUMPER
●1:15●3:20-5:25-7:35▲9:40 DTS PG-13

STEP UP 2 THE STREETS DTS PG-13
●12:50●3:00-5:10-7:20▲9:30

definitely, maybe DTS PG-13
●1:40-4:15-6:50▲9:25 RYAN REYNOLDS

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MATTHEW MCCONAUGHEY KATE HUDSON
●12:00●2:15-4:35-7:00▲9:20 PG-13

8 ACADEMY AWARD NOMS INCL. BEST PICTURE
There Will Be Blood
●1:10-4:25-7:30 DANIEL DAY LEWIS R

WELCOME HOME ROSCOE JENKINS
●12:05●2:25-4:45-7:10▲9:35 PG-13

7 ACADEMY AWARD NOMS INCL. BEST PICTURE
ATONEMENT ●1:30-6:35 R

8 ACADEMY AWARD NOMS INCL. BEST PICTURE
NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN
4:00▲9:00 TOMMY LEE JONES R

27 DRESSES 4:50-7:05▲9:15 PG-13

ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS
●12:30●2:30 PG

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How to Shoot Down A Satellite: Sci-Fi Becomes Real

by Elijah LaChance '10
Science & Technology Editor

Just hours after a Navy missile interceptor struck a dying spy satellite orbiting 130 miles over the Pacific Ocean, a senior military officer expressed high confidence early Thursday that a tank filled with toxic rocket fuel had been breached. In other words, the U.S. Navy had successfully shot a dying satellite out of the sky, a feat that was once deemed possible only in science fiction, but which the military has been working on since the time of the space race.

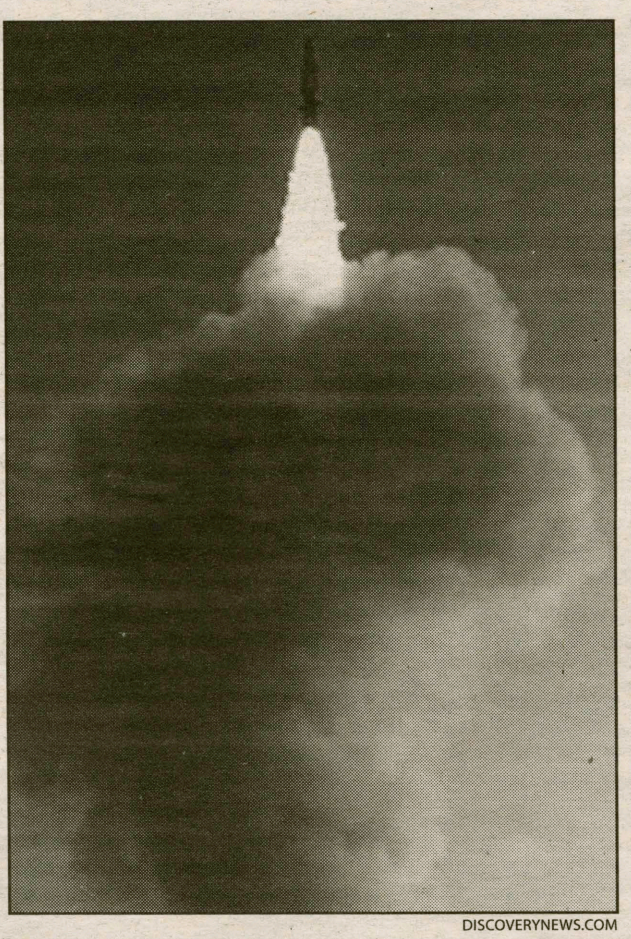
Video of the unusual operation showed the missile leaving a bright trail as it streaked toward the satellite, and then a flash, a fireball, a plume and a cloud as the interceptor, at a minimum, appeared to have found its target, a satellite that went dead shortly after being launched in 2006.

"We're very confident that we hit the satellite," said Gen. James E. Cartwright of the Marines, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. "We also have a high degree of confidence that we got the tank."General Cartwright cautioned that despite visual and spectral evidence that the hydrazine rocket fuel had been dispersed, it could take 24 to 48 hours before the Pentagon could announce with full confidence that the mission was a success. Even so, he said the military had 80 to 90 percent confidence the fuel tank was breached.

The fuel tank aboard the satellite was believed strong enough to survive the fiery re-entry through the atmosphere, and officials expressed concerns that the toxic fuel could pose a hazard to populated areas.

General Cartwright said debris from the strike, with individual pieces no larger than a football, already had begun to re-enter the atmosphere. Most, he said, was predicted to fall into the ocean.

During a Pentagon news conference Thursday morning, General Cartwright rebuffed those who said the mission was, at least in part, organized to showcase American missile defense or anti-satellite capabilities. "This was a one-time modification," General Cartwright said.He stressed that "the intent here was to preserve human life," but also acknowledged that "the technical degree of difficulty was significant" and the accomplishment earned cheers from personnel in command centers across the military as well.



DISCOVERYNEWS.COM

The missile was an adapted Standard Missile 3.

Completing a mission in which an interceptor designed for missile defense was used for the first time to attack a satellite, the *Lake Erie*, an Aegis-class cruiser, fired a single missile just before 10:30 p.m. Eastern time, and the missile hit the satellite as it traveled at more than 17,000 miles per hour, the Pentagon said in its official announcement.

The many moving parts of a mission to shoot down a dying spy satellite with an antimissile interceptor were lined up earlier Wednesday after the space shuttle Atlantis returned to Earth, officials said. Military officials said their goal had been to carry out the mission before March 1, when the satellite was expected to start skidding against the upper reaches of the atmosphere.

That initial friction would bump the satellite into a more unpredictable Earth orbit, even before it started a fiery descent through the atmosphere.The senior military officer said the mission would be launched in daylight to take advantage of radar, heat-sensor tracking and visual tracking equipment. The Navy had a window that lasted only tens of seconds as the satellite passed overhead, military officers said.

The *Lake Erie* had two Standard Missile 3 rockets that were adapted to track the cold satellite, as opposed to the heated enemy warheads for which it was designed. A second ship, the destroyer *Decatur*, had a third missile as backup. Another Navy destroyer, the *Russell*, sailed with the convoy for added tracking capabilities.

The 5,000-pound satellite, roughly the size of a school bus, was managed by the National Reconnaissance Office and went dead shortly after it was launched in December 2006. There is still some danger from the debris that will land on Earth.The FEMA document notes, "Any debris should be considered potentially hazardous, and first responders should not attempt to pick it up or move it." Overall, the mission was significantly lower in drama than most science fiction, but the technology and the accomplishment were no less impressive.

The Science Behind Multi-Player Gaming

by Alex Hinton '10
Science & Technology Writer

Just about everyone on campus knows, or is friends with someone who plays, or has played a massive multiplayer online game. WoW (World of Warcraft), CS (Counterstrike), and GW (Guild Wars) among others have become popular abbreviations among massive multiplayer online gamers (MMOG) who are increasingly involved in the online gaming scene. Ever since becoming popularized by the first generation MMORPG, Ultima Online, the online gaming industry has received a massive boon in development, but also in expanding player base. By 2006, MMORPGs had reached a collective global membership somewhere in the field of 15 million players. Worldwide revenue in the online gaming industry exceeded a half-billon in 2005. One year later, this number had doubled for western companies alone, causing one to question the what, why, and how of online gaming to determine the cause of its increasing popularity. In the process of exploring the above I've also explored the when.

Modern MMORPGs are the product of a synthesis of the text-based and graphical MUDs which had developed independently in the 1970s. MUDs or Multi-User Dungeon games created an area in which two or more players could interact with each other. The first FPS (first person shooter game), Mazewar, proved comparably influential to the online gaming industry first in its construction of a virtual space, but also in its use of a multiplayer medium: two computers connected to each other via serial cable. Meanwhile text-based games, in which players controlled their characters through typed command, became the first games played over private computer networks which would eventually become the modern incarnation of the internet. These games also developed a species of in-game-chat feature, another characteristic of modern day online games.

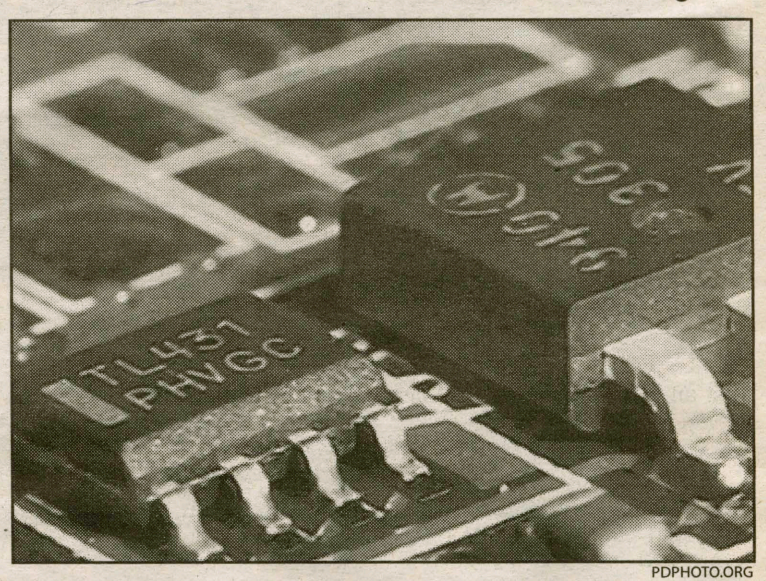
As text-based RPGs moved towards the status quo, the first commercial MMORPG was released. In 1984 Islands of Kesmai was released by co-creators Kelton Flinn and John Taylor. The game featured several character customization and advancement options, and provided for player vs. player interaction through the use of character alignments, which players could specify during the character creation process. However, it was still a text based role playing game, and, with subscription cost that charged by the hour, it left much to be desired.

Meanwhile, development towards graphical virtual worlds continued. Four years after the release of Islands of Kesmai, LucasArts released Club Caribe the first game sporting an online interactive environment in which players could meet, chat and exchange items. The game may not have been an RPG, but this release proved no less revolutionary. Finally, in 1991 Neverwinter Nights was released as the first graphical MMORPG through the joint efforts of America Online, Stormfront Studios, Strategic Simulations Inc, and TSR. It launched

see ***Gaming,*** *page 15*

DNA-Based Computers the New Standard for the 21st Centruy?

by Nicholas Berry '09
Science and Technology Writer



PDPHOTO.ORG

DNA-based computers will probably be first used by the Pentagon, but could eventually make their way into your home.

The microprocessor is the heart of any computer: it performs the calculations and executes the programs that allow a computer to operate. Conventional microprocessors consist of a small, thin piece of silicon onto which transistors have been etched. Since their creation in the 1970s, microprocessors have been constantly improved upon in terms of their processing speed and size. Eventually, however, silicon microprocessors will reach the physical limits of their speed and miniaturization. Consequently, if computer chip manufacturers are going to continue building faster, smaller microprocessors, then they will need to find a new material to replace silicon.

In the mid-1990s, scientists proposed a surprising alternative to silicon for the next generation of microprocessors: DNA. More formally known as deoxyribonucleic acid, DNA, the material our genes are made of, can be integrated into computer chips to form so-called "biochips." These biochips, in turn, may someday yield DNA-based computers that are faster, more compact, more accurate, and more efficient than even the world's most powerful supercomputers.

Computers and DNA are remarkably alike in terms of how they store and process information. Conventional computers represent information on silicon chips as a series of electrical impulses – zeroes and ones – and manipulate the information by performing mathematical computations. In a similar fashion, DNA represents information as sequences of four different nucleotide base pairs, which is subsequently manipulated by specific chemical reactions catalyzed by enzymes. These reactions may involve marking, lengthening, cutting, or destroying the DNA segment. Thus, enzymes, which read, copy, and manipulate the DNA sequences in predictable ways, are analogous to the mathematical computations used in computers.

DNA-based computers consist of myriad DNA strands either freely floating in a test tube or anchored to some surface. Scientists synthesize these different strands by combining the four different nucleotides into a single chain known as a sequence. The unique nucleotide sequence found on each individual DNA strand represents one possible answer to the problem the computer is trying to solve. New strands are made and added to the computer until all conceivable answers are present. Current DNA-based computers are therefore somewhat limited in their problem solving versatility because each individual computer is tailored to solving a single problem; if a different problem needs to be solved, a new DNA-based computer specific to that problem must be created. Nevertheless, the speed at which they are able to solve the problem is still

see ***Computer,*** *page 15*

What's on the Web? DailyGalaxy.com

by Kate Tumarello '11
Science & Technology Editor

Rating:

(out of 5 beakers)

Any website that guarantees "News from planet earth and beyond" is bound to be geeky, somewhat interesting, possibly confusing, or some combination of the three. DailyGalaxy.com is definitely some combination of the three.

The people behind DailyGalaxy.com describe the site as "an eclectic text and video presentation of fascinating news and original insights on science, space exploration, technology, and their reflections in popular culture." A few minutes of browsing the site will prove this to be true.

The homepage will catch your attention with some of the most recent, and actually interesting, science articles in the news. Currently DailyGalaxy.com is featuring articles ranging from a "breathalyzer" that can assess personal health with just an exhale to the discovery of a solar system in the Milky Way that is similar to our solar system.

Because the website is a blog and maintains a blog format, the articles are arranged in the archives by date and year, rather than by topic. There is not even a search bar for the site to find articles on the topic you are looking for by using keywords. Instead, you will have to search through all the archives if you have a specific topic in mind.

Going along with the blog format, there are a number of annoying ads along the side of each page. Although some of the ads are ones viewers might be interested in, such as the ad for the Discovery Channel DVD set on planet earth, the twelve thousand different ads for iPhones and iPods get annoying after awhile.

Also, everyone has the ability to leave comments on each of the articles. While this means that you may be able to get responses from intelligent people who know about the subject that the article is on, you will also get responses from people who know nothing about anything related to the article.

The positive side of this blog format is that it can easily be added to a number of RSS feeds including Bloglines, Yahoo, and myEarthLink. In addition, the people behind DailyGalaxy.com have made the site's contents even more accessible by creating a gadget that you can put on your Google homepage that allows you to see the most recent headlines on DailyGalaxy.com.

There is even an application from DailyGalaxy.com for Facebook. You can be the first to outdo your Bumper Sticker addicted friends by having the DailyGalaxy application on your Facebook. Although I have yet to actually see anyone with this application, Facebook claims people have in fact added it, and even three people admit to being fans of it.

All in all, DailyGalaxy.com is nothing if not accessible. A good number of the articles are even interesting to more than just the typical space science nerds. In the last month alone there have been featured articles on how doctors are using the Nintendo Wii for rehabilitation therapy and a new video game designed by The Sims creator that allows the player to "control the evolution of a species from its beginnings as a multicellular organism, through development as a sapient and social land-walking creature, to levels of interstellar exploration as a spacefaring culture."

If you can get past the annoying ads and the sometimes troublesome format, you can find a bunch of interesting articles like this and even some interesting non-videogame-related articles on DailyGalaxy.com. Overall, it is definitely worth checking out.

The Daily Galaxy
Scientists Find that All Plants Live and Die According A Precise Scale
Neil Peart's Roadshow: Landscape with Drums & PowerBook
The Great Debate: How Fast Will Sea Levels Rise?

DAILYGALAXY.COM

Here is a picture of the DailyGalaxy gadget you can add to your Google homepage to get the most recent news.

A FOOL'S BRAIN DIGESTS PHILOSOPHY INTO FOLLY, SCIENCE INTO SUPERSTITION, AND ART INTO PEDANTRY. HENCE UNIVERSITY EDUCATION.
~ GEORGE BERNARD SHAW

Computer Chips Have Already Made Their Mark on the 21st Century

*from **DNA-Based**, page 14*

than normal computers.

Because only one or a few of the possible answers will be correct, the computer's goal is to check each strand and remove the incorrect ones. The DNA-based computer does this by simultaneously subjecting all of the strands to a series of enzyme-catalyzed reactions that are similar to the mathematical operations performed by an electronic computer. For example, some mathematical operations are performed by enzymes whose function depends on the specific values of information in one or more spots on the strand. An enzyme might add a value of 1 to the end of a strand if either of two specific values in the strand were 1. By orchestrating many such operations, researchers can use the enzymes to perform sophisticated logical and mathematical computations.

When the chemical reactions are complete, researchers analyze the strands to find the answer -- for instance, by locating the longest or the shortest strand and decoding it to determine what answer it represents. To decode the answer, researchers use a virus to infect a bacterium with the "answer" strand of DNA. The bacterium manufactures multiple copies of the strand, and, after about a day, researchers are able to extract enough genetic material to sequence and read the nucleotide sequence representing the correct answer.

DNA offers numerous advantages over silicon. First, DNA, which is found in and produced by all organisms, is a renewable resource in large supply, making it much cheaper than silicon. Second, DNA can be made cleanly without the use of the use of the toxic substances needed for silicon chips. Third, DNA can store more information in a much smaller amount of space than can traditional silicon-based microprocessors. DNA has a data density of more than one million gigabits per square inch, while electronic computers have a data density of only seven gigabits per square inch. Put another way, one gram of DNA can hold as much information as one trillion CDs while one pound of DNA can hold more information than all of the computers ever built. Finally, DNA can perform calculations must faster than silicon microprocessors. DNA's greater speed is primarily due to its ability to perform calculations in parallel (i.e. at the same time). Silicon microprocessors, on the other hand, can only perform calculations linearly (i.e. one at a time). Thus, whereas a conventional computer may take hundreds of years to solve a complex problem, a DNA-based computer would be able to solve it in a matter of hours.

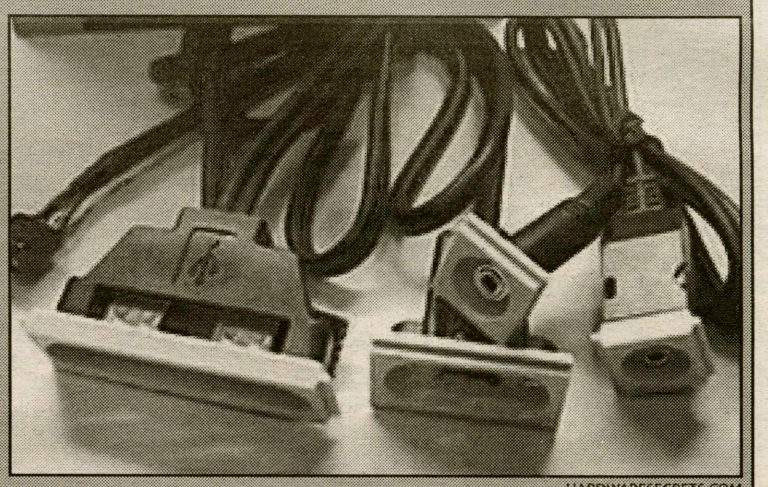
It is important to note that DNA-computers are still in their infancy and that it will take years before practical, workable DNA-based computers capable of outperforming their silicon-based cousins are on the market. Indeed, their development faces many challenges, such as reducing the number of unwanted chemical reactions and accelerating the processing of the DNA "answer" segment. When they are finally ready, DNA computers will most likely be used first by the Pentagon, whose Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) has invested significant sums of money into their development. Much of the military's interest in DNA computers arises from the ever-increasing sophistication of encryption techniques that other countries can use to encode their data. As a result, the government needs ever-more-powerful computers for code breaking. Because DNA-based computers can perform multiple calculations at the same time, they would be able to decipher codes much faster and easier than conventional computers.

Gaming Gets Scientific

*from **The Science**, page 14*

with a subscription cost of $6.00 an hour to play but, as restrictions on the internet loosened and e-mail became available to larger sections of the public, the internet popularity increased. More people began to sign on, and the reactive advances in internet technology ultimately caused connection cost to drop, attracting still more to the internet. As upkeep costs dropped in related fields, Neverwinter Nights experienced a similar cost drop, causing its membership to grow. By the time of its closing in 1997 the game had a player base around 155,000 players. The rest is history.

Through the lens provided by a game, one can describe the world of an MMO as a large chat room, decorated in some sort of theme in which players communicate with each other. Add in the ability to explore the world through the eyes of a semi-realistic customized avatar, establish a series of short and long term goals within the virtual world, encourage cooperative and competitive player to player interaction, and finally build in the potential for practically endless advancement, and it's not difficult to see how, in an attempt to satisfy these goals faster and more effectively than other players, one could spend hours in these games. Oddly enough most players, even those who spend hours on a day to day basis immersed in the virtual reality, can only provide a cursory, grossly oversimplified explanation of what's going on. Fortunately that's all most people will ever need.



HARDWARESECRETS.COM

A variety of cables, including USB cords, serve to connect the player's server with the virtual Internet world.

Basically, interactions between players and the virtual world to which they subscribe are performed via a computer network designed to facilitate communication between two computers, the client and server. This method of network communication is used most commonly in e-mail, in which users check their e-mail by logging on to a designated e-mail server via a client software or webpage. The client is actually not so much a computer as a piece of software that identifies your computer to a certain network and then to the server. The server is the other computer that holds the information you're looking for. The client will take your computer to the server to look at something and then translate whatever is there in to something you can understand.

Applied to the construction of virtual worlds, the server will either contain and/or piece together erroneous chunks of graphical and instructional data to create a virtual world which the client will then show to the player. The digital location of the graphical data and chunks of information will actually differ from title to title, but the server is always one defining the world as it appears to players and facilitating interaction of players to the virtual world, and players to each other.

Doubtless, as game design continues to incorporate technological advances in network management, graphical and audio compression, and whatever it is they do to simulate virtual interaction, we can expect increasingly realistic worlds, game play, and player interaction within the virtual sphere. We can leave the inevitable resulting controversy as a discussion topic for later.

Did You Know That?

Wacky Facts: Total Space Case

by Kate Tumarello '11
Science & Technology Editor

- ***Scientists estimate that between three to five new stars are born every year within our own galaxy.***
- ***Approximately 60 percent of the light on a moonless night comes from sunlight reflecting off of the particles that make up the interplanetary dust cloud.***
- ***The Hubble Telescope has provided evidence that there are about one hundred and seventy five billion galaxies in the observable universe.***
- ***Typical galaxies range from dwarfs with as few as ten million stars up to giants with one trillion stars, all orbiting a common center of mass. The Milky Way contains about two hundred billion stars.***
- ***Observational data suggests that super massive black holes may exist at the center of many, if not all, galaxies.***
- ***A meteoroid is particle floating in outer space that has a size ranging between a grain of sand and large boulder 10-50 meters across.***
- ***Once a meteoroid enters the earth's atmosphere and becomes visible, it is considered a meteor.***
- ***Most meteors burn up before they reach the ground.***
- ***The remains of a meteor that impacts the earth, if it is not vaporized by the impact, is called a meteorite. Anything larger than a meteoroid is considered an asteroid.***
- ***The first animals to return safely to earth were Squirrel and Little Arrow, two Soviet dogs, who were launched August 19th 1960, and returned a day later.***
- ***Valentina Tereshkova from Russia was the first woman in space in 1963. Sally Ride became the first American woman in space in 1983.***

SCI & TECH EVENTS CALENDAR

MONDAY, FEB. 25:
Dr. John Logsdon, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Iowa
"Sex, Cells: The Origin and Molecular Evolution of Meiosis."
4:00 p.m., SCCT 3024
Refreshments will be served

TUESDAY, FEB. 26:
HEAG Meeting
7:00 p.m., Glen House

MONDAY, MAR. 3:
Dr.Amy Lindsey, Deptartment of Psychology, Utica College.
"Visual Behavior of Adult Goldfish with Regenerating Retina"
4:00 p.m., SCCT 3024
Refreshments will be served

PROFESSOR PROFILE

David Gapp, Biology

THE FACTS:

Name: David Gapp
Department: Biology
Graduate School: William and Mary
Experience: Postdoctoral work at the Jackson Laboratory
Research: Reptile and amphibian gastrointestinal tracts and hormones; environmental contamination loads

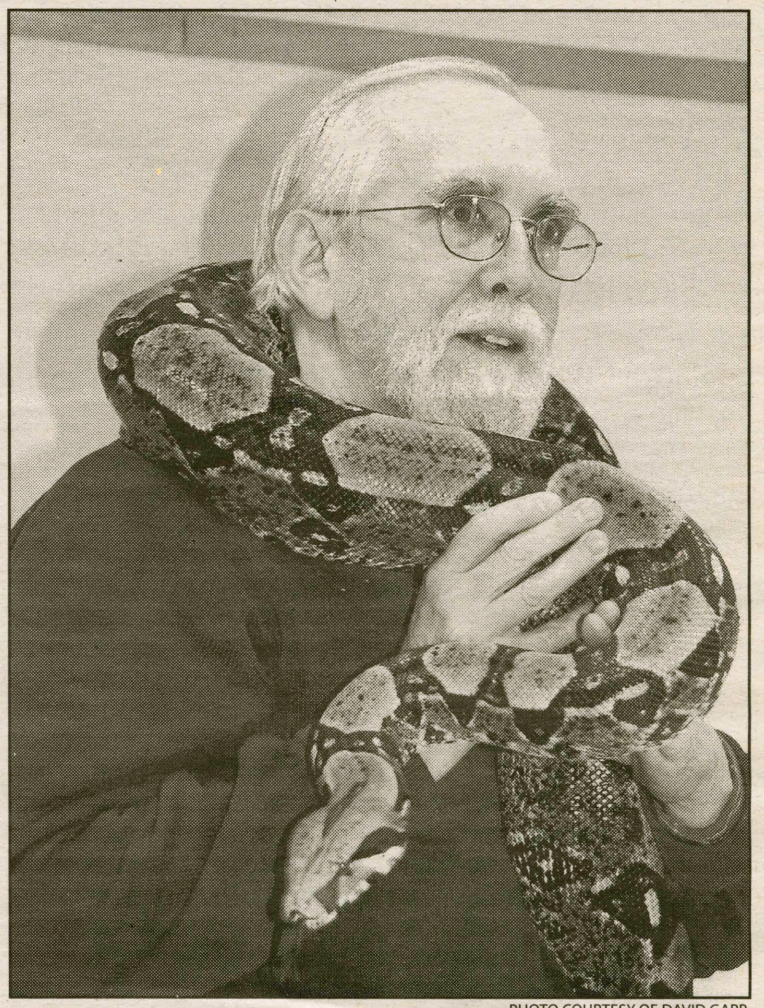


PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID GAPP
Professor Gapp with a large boa constrictor he calls Lily.

INTERVIEW SECTION:

Elijah LaChance: If you were to describe yourself in three words, what would they be?

David Gapp: biologist, teacher, husband/father

EL: What areas of biology most interest you and why?

DG: The study of reptiles was my earliest interest (pre-college) and during the course of my time here I've been able to work that into my research that is centered on the evolution of the endocrine system. Additionally, I enjoy ecology and environmental aspects of biology and some of my research has tie-ins to environmental issues.

EL: How did you eventually choose to teach biology for a living?

DG: While I had been interested in the living world all my life, it wasn't until late in undergraduate school did I begin to think that it might be fun to teach biology. Although my first experiences at teaching as a graduate assistant were a bit traumatic (I would get nauseous before classes), I kept on going because I really did enjoy it (the teaching, not the nausea).

EL: Was there anything in particular that inspired your particular focus in endocrinology?

DG: Before beginning my master's at William and Mary, I was focused on microbiology. But in the first term of my master's program I took an endocrinology class with Prof. Ian Callard (now at Boston University) and everything about the topic just clicked. It was a way of learning how all the cellular and physiologic functions were integrated, and this appealed to me like no other aspect of biology.

EL: Why Hamilton?

DG: Quite simply, when I was applying for faculty positions as I completed my postdoc at the Jackson Laboratory, Hamilton was the only interview I got and, luckily, I was offered the position.

EL: What is your funniest/most embarrassing childhood memory that you wouldn't mind sharing?

DG: I am sure there are many; I've probably suppressed them all.

EL: What is your favorite band/singer, your favorite ice cream flavor, your favorite book, and your favorite home-cooked meal?

DG: Favorite Bands: Beatles, Stones, and Moody Blues (that really dates me). Favorite books: Harry Potter novels, *Angels and Demons*. Favorite home-cooked meal: Any number of meals my wife Pearl prepares.

EL: What would you say is your teaching style, and what can students expect who are in your classes?

DG: My style is pretty much straight lecture; it's what I was used to and my most memorable professors (including Prof. Callard) impressed me with the ability to deliver a lively, coherent and information-dense lectures. I tend to emulate Prof. Callard's style. Students may expect a lot of information to digest and learn. Additionally, they can expect for me to include information on the historical and/or cultural aspects of the science they are learning.

EL: What was the craziest thing you did in college you wouldn't mind sharing?

DG: One evening, two of my friends and I tried to "relocate" a cannon and a Conestoga wagon from the Powder Magazine in Colonial Williamsburg. (We were unsuccessful).

EL: Other than the Science Center, where can students expect to see you on campus?

DG: When my schedule permits, watching women's basketball in the Field House.

EL: What are your current research interests, and how are students working with you on them?

DG: Current interests include understanding the structure and function of the reptile and amphibian gastrointestinal tract. I've especially focused on the presence and role of gastrointestinal hormones.

This summer, with Prof. Mike McCormick's help, I hope to begin a new line of research by looking at environmental contaminant loads in various freshwater vertebrates. I expect my students will be out with me in local swamps, marshes and streams collecting materials and bringing them into the lab for analysis.

EL: What is your fondest memory from your time at Hamilton?

DG: I don't have a single instance or event, but my time spent with many of my students is what I cherish most and will always remember.

Research is what I'm doing when I don't know what I'm doing.
~ Wernher Von Braun

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Until We Sell Out

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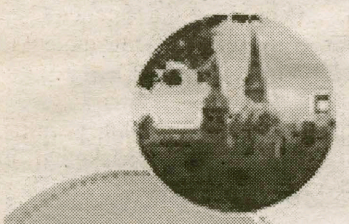

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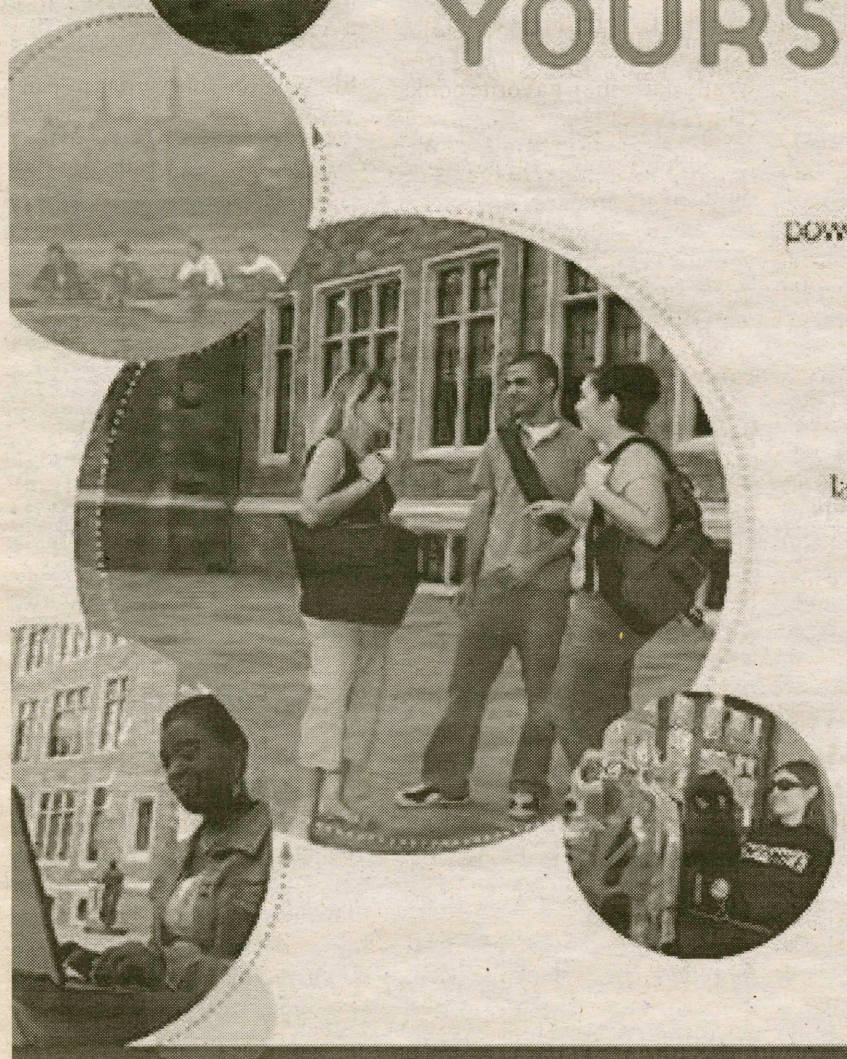

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Sports Opinion: Grab Some Bench

Non-Starters on Men's Basketball Team Make Immense Contributions

by Tom Monfiletto '08
Sports Writer

In any conversation with an athlete, one of the first questions that anyone asks is, "Are you starting?" This question is usually followed by, "How much playing time do you get?" Why are these the most common questions that are asked? These questions solely pertain to the individual, and have nothing to do with the team. If one were to ask a member of the Hamilton Men's Basketball Team if he was "starting" it would seem to them completely irrelevant. This year, Hamilton boasts a lineup as deep as the original Dream Team, and each bench player contributes just as much as the players announced in the starting lineup.

Throughout the season, Coach Anderson has been switching the starting lineups like Dennis Rodman switches his hair color. The fluctuation of the starting five leaves ample opportunity for bench players to make a contribution, as each player is capable of starting. In the two victories this past week against Hobart and Clarkson we saw how a vital effort and contribution from the bench helped guide the Continentals to victory.

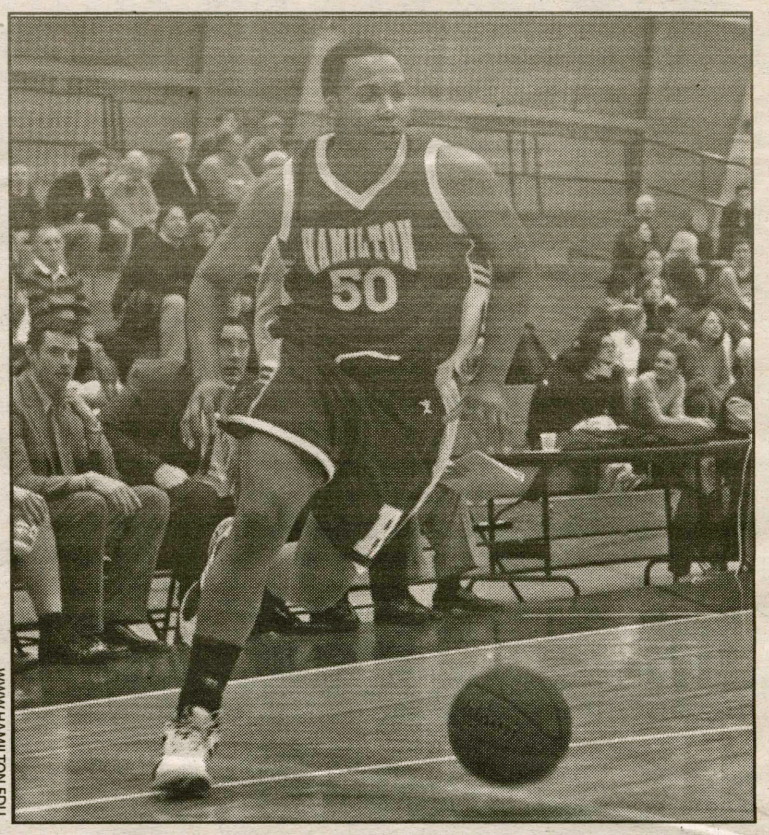
In Tuesday's fifteen point victory over the Hobart Statesmen, the bench contributed 21 points and seven rebounds with Ramunas Rozgys '09 scoring twelve of those points. Rozgys is in the running for Sixth Man of the Universe yet again, and his contributions this season have been more than noteworthy. His tenacious defense, vision, and ability to finish have been crucial factors to the Continentals' success. Some refer to him as Lithuanian Lightning because in an instant he can crash the boards and destroy the opponents' entire situation. Opponents can only count the seconds, waiting for him to strike after Harlee Wood '09 comes with the thunder.

The Continentals found themselves down by ten points with twelve minutes remaining in the game. In came Lithuanian Lightning who helped the Conts eventually regain the lead and bury the Statesmen. With the game tied at 54, Kyle Dumas '09 found LL camping out beyond the three-point line. Rozgys drained a three to put the Conts up for good. His clutch shooting and dominance on the glass helped keep the Statesmen on their heels.

In this ever-important victory, Hamilton saw significant contributions from the entire bench. Despite his hideous hairstyle, Ill Will Preston '11 contributed seven points and four rebounds in 25 minutes. Ever since coming off of his quiet suspension for neglecting to wash or cut his worn-out mop, Ill Will has been playing a much more significant role for the Continentals. Opponents have actually been caught staring at the burlap sack sitting atop Will's cranium while Ill Will drops jump shots all over the court.

Max "Shenanigans" Shillalies '11 and Dayne Harris '11 have been essential to the team's success throughout the season, and contributed some valuable minutes in this most recent game. Tim Shaw '10 has been another force off the bench and has finally grown accustomed to playing with that piece of plastic covering his face. Rob Toste '08 adds fire, heart, and passion to the lineup along with a silky smooth stroke from behind the arch. Seth Mahoney '11 brings mongoose-like speed and agility to the court, while Gabe Rosen '11 has been showing serious signs of potential according to Steven A. Smith.

As the Conts fight their way to the top of the Liberty League they seem to be clicking on all cylinders. Ty [Jay Simpson] Lawson has recently returned from a sprained ankle and will provide the Continentals with the boost they need to make it into the tournament. The success of the team during the final stretch of the season, however, will rely heavily on the play of the bench, as it has all season. If the bench can continue its consistent play, the Continentals can hope to extend their season into late March. In the meantime, if you happen to see a member of the Hamilton men's basketball team, and happen to ask him whether or not he is starting, do not be surprised if he smiles or laughs in your face. To him, it makes no difference.



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Harlee Wood '09 will be a powerhouse in the post-season.

Hamilton By the Numbers

Men's Basketball: 15-7

Women's Basketball: 13-9

Women's Hockey: 6-12-4

Men's Hockey: 5-16-1

Women's Squash: 13-6

Men's Squash: 10-11

Trades Loom on the Horizon

NHL Star Players May Be on the Move

by Andrew Harris '11
Sports Writer

With less than a week remaining until the NHL trade deadline on Tuesday, February 26, NHL general managers are focused on preparing their teams for a run to the most coveted trophy in sports: the Stanley Cup. These GMs know how important a mid-season acquisition can be; the Carolina Hurricanes picked up forward Mark Recchi at the deadline in 2006 and went on to win the Cup.

For many teams, the trade deadline represents the last chance to improve their chances, and sends a definite message to the fans as to the ultimate direction of the team. With that in mind, here is a list of players who are being shopped around, and what teams they may end up on.

The most coveted center being marketed is Toronto's Mats Sundin. Sundin, a 16-year veteran from Sweden, has been with the Leafs since 1994, and is the face of the franchise. Even at his age, however, he is still performing, leading his team in goals and assists, compiling 60 points total.

The Anaheim Ducks are rumored to be very interested in Sundin's services, although they would be interested in signing him for more than just the end of this season. However, these deals are all contingent on Sundin waiving the no-trade clause in his contract, which is a likely scenario.

If teams miss out on Sundin, Marian Hossa of the Atlanta Thrashers is the next logical target. Hossa, who is second on his team with 53 points, is a free agent at the end of the year, and the Thrashers are looking to get some value in return if he leaves.

The Boston Bruins are the leading contenders to land Hossa, who would provide an instant scoring boost to a team that has scored the second fewest goals in the Eastern Conference this season. The Dallas Stars are also looking at Hossa, potentially as a complement to star center Mike Modano.

However, the team to beat in the Hossa sweepstakes is the San Jose Sharks. They have offered a package around one of their core players, Patrick Marleau. Marleau is not playing particularly well right now, but he is a young player who is under contract until the 2010 season.

If teams are looking for defensemen, the best available option seems to be Brian Campbell of Buffalo. Campbell leads the Sabres in assists with 37, while only taking ten penalty minutes the entire season.

With Buffalo losing both Chris Drury and Daniel Briere last offseason, general manager Darcy Regier is looking to build up talented players for the future, as Buffalo continues to rebuild. The New York Rangers are rumored to be interested in Campbell, as he would provide an offensive boost to their defense corps and add much needed experience.

The other team that may now be interested in obtaining Campbell is the Detroit Red Wings. Their star defenseman just went down with a knee injury and will be out for at least the next two weeks.

The goaltending class is rather weak at this year's trade deadline, and the top net-minder appears to be Ottawa's Ray Emery. With the strong play of goalie Martin Gerber, Emery has become expendable, and the Senators are hoping to get some value on their investment. Emery was almost traded during the offseason, but the trade fell through, leaving the Senators with two talented goalies, both of whom demanded playing time. Emery may be sent to probable playoff teams like the Pittsburgh Penguins or the Carolina Hurricanes, who are both looking for a backup goaltender to help their chances in the playoff push.

Tour of California Races into its Third Year

by Scott Flaherty '08
Sports Contributor

Like most professional sports nowadays, cycling has its share of drug scandals. In fact, cycling's drug problem has been around for a long time, but the controversies seem to have come to head in the two years since Lance Armstrong has retired from the sport.

In 2006, two of the top contenders expected to take over for Armstrong were not allowed to compete in the Tour de France because of their involvement in a performance-enhancing drug investigation. The investigation, known as Operacion Puerto, is cycling's equivalent of the Mitchell Report about steroids in professional baseball.

The 2006 Tour de France was won by American rider Floyd Landis, but a few days later, it was revealed that he had failed a drug test. He had artificial testosterone in his system. The infraction ultimately led to the loss of his Tour de France win and will likely have him banned from the sport for a number of years.

During the 2007 Tour de France, similar issues popped up. Two of the top riders were kicked out of the race. One of these partook in blood-doping, in which he received a blood transfusion to boost the ability of his blood to carry oxygen. The other rider was kicked out for not reporting his whereabouts to drug testers and for missing a number of scheduled drug tests.

The scandals have many cycling fans feeling skeptical and some have even stopped following the sport. Yet, like with everything, hope springs eternal as the new cycling season begins. For the past three years, the season has begun in California with the Amgen Tour of California. The race is one of the two biggest American cycling races. The other is the Tour de Georgia, which takes place in April.

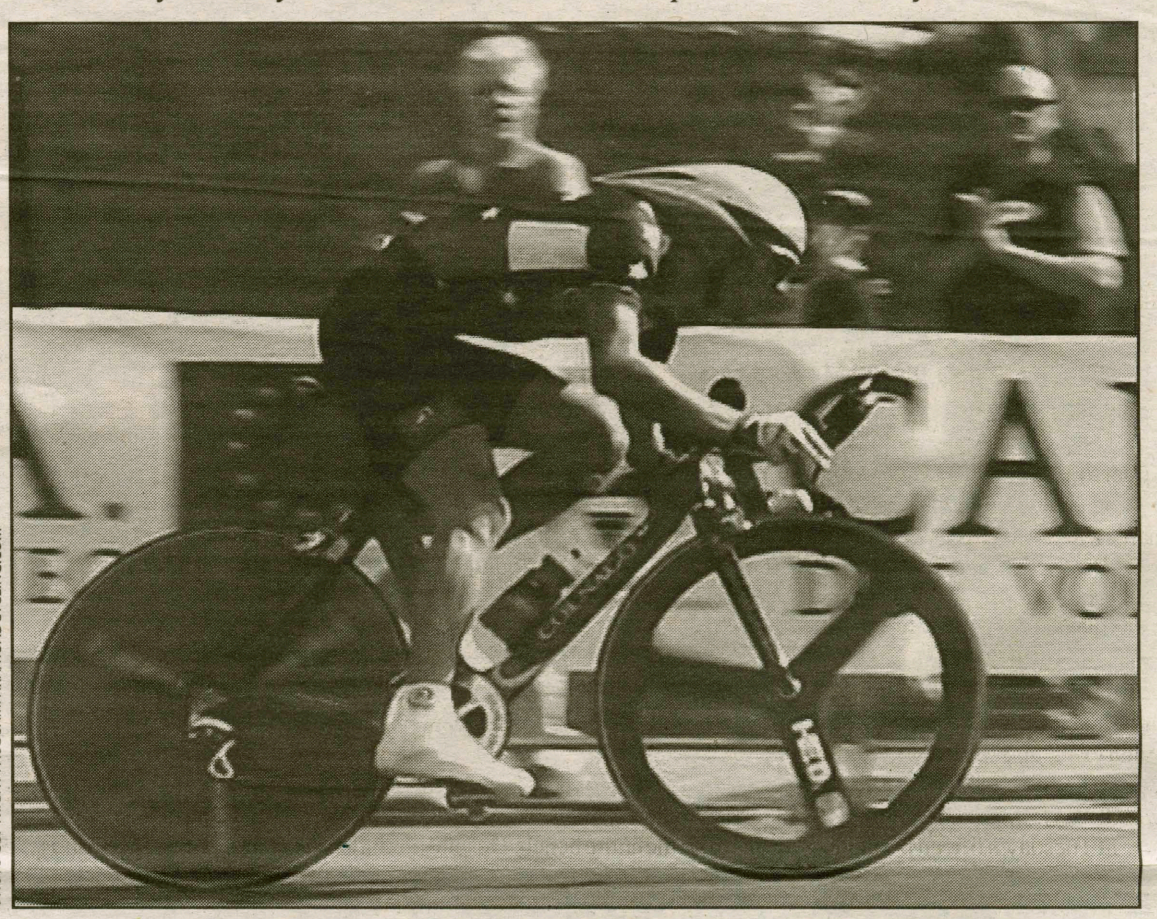
In the Tour of California, riders face eight days of tough racing, including grueling mountain stages, very fast flat stages, and two individual time-trials, in which each rider is alone, racing against the clock. Because it has all these elements, the Tour of California is a great warm-up for the famous "grand tours" which take place in Italy, France and Spain during the summer months, the most prominent of which is the Tour de France in July.

Those big races take place over three weeks, and also run through flats, mountains and individual time-trials. Since it is like a condensed, one-week version of the grand tours, the Tour of California is a great opportunity to see which teams and individual riders are going to be strong throughout the year. Also, it is a great chance for up and coming American riders and teams to test their skills against some of the best riders in the world. The race continues to attract better international talent every year since it began in 2006.

This year's race is off to a great start, with two flat stages already complete, the riders are heading into their first real mountain climbs in stages three and four. These stages typically sort out who the real contenders for the title are. Riders who are talented at climbing the hilly roads are able to build sizeable gaps between themselves and the other competitors in the pack.

One rider who has been able to do this very effectively in the past is American Levi Leipheimer. Leipheimer is a crowd favorite, as he lives and trains in northern California, and he is also one of the premier professional cyclists in the world. In addition, Leipheimer is the only person to ever win the Tour of California, having taken the overall title during each of the past two races. Look for him to get into first place during the mountain stages and then to blow the competition away during the final time-trial to secure his victory.

The Tour of California is covered nightly on the Versus network, but for those of us resigned to the college's basic cable, live streaming video, as well as information about the stages, riders, teams and the sport in general can be found on the Tour's website: www.amgentourofcalifornia.com. The race runs February 17-24.



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American cyclist Levi Leipheimer began to race professionally in Belgium at age 20.

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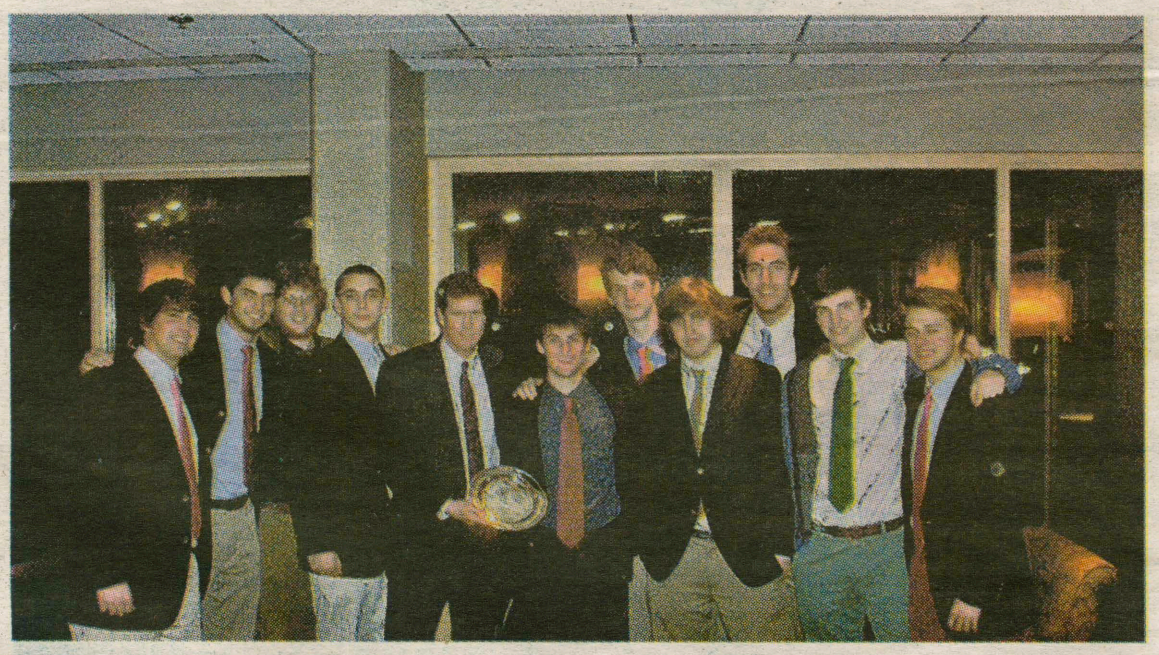
SPECTATOR SPORTS

February 22, 2008

Hamilton Men's Squash Team Defeats Host Northeastern University in the College Squash Association Championships



The Men's Squash Team at the College Squash Association team championships in Boston.

Congratulations to the Hamilton Men's Squash Team and Head Coach Jamie King for winning the College Squash Association Team Sportsmanship Award at this year's CSA National Team Championships at Harvard February 15-17.

Players and coaches from over 50 men's squash teams participated in the largest intercollegiate team squash tournament ever held and voted Hamilton the winner of the CSA Team Sportsmanship Award.

King first accepted the trophy as a Team Captain (Williams, 1984) and then again as a Coach (Hamilton, 2008)- a fantastic and historical accomplishment that he and the team should be very proud of!

This Weekend in Hamilton Athletics:

Friday 2/22:

Swimming and Diving (W) @ NESCAC Championships
Basketball (M) v. Skidmore
Basketball (W) v. Skidmore
Squash (W) @ Cornell
Basketball (W) v. Skidmore
Hockey (M) @ Williams
Hockey (W) v. Middlebury

Saturday 2/23:

Indoor Track and Field (M) @ Cornell's Mark Denault Invitational
Indoor Track and Field (W) @ Cornell's Mark Denault Invitational
Basketball (W) v. Union
Basketball (M) v. Union
Hockey (W) v. Williams
Hockey (M) @ Middlebury
Swimming and Diving (W) @ NESCAC Championships

Go Blue!

Track Teams Finish Strong

Four School Records Broken at Liberty League Meet

by Brooke Rayder '11
Sports Writer

The indoor track and field teams boasted some impressive performances last weekend in the Liberty League Championships. Both teams finished third during the league competition. The performances put on by the team were tremendous as numerous school records were broken. It is evident that the teams have been training really well and working on their techniques with hopes of improving.

On the men's side, Peter Kosgei '10 set the tone as he secured his spot in the NCAA Division III Championships. He set both Liberty League and Hamilton records with a time of 1:52.42 in the 800 meter run. Kosgei qualified earlier in the season for NCAA competition in the mile and 5000m run. In recognition of his great achievement, Kosgei was selected as the Liberty League Performer of the Week. He also made the all-Liberty League team for his record-breaking performance.

Claudius Zorokong '08 was another one of the team's standout performers. He came in first place in the long jump, despite it being the first time he had competed in the event this season. Along with Kosgei, Zorokong gave the Continentals two people on the all-Liberty League team.

Other key contributors were Bill Kearney '08, whose shot put throw earned him a fourth place finish and James Russell '09. Russell, one of Hamilton's all-time best pole vaulters, also collected a fourth place finish in the pole vault. The team's veteran leaders finished strong to round out the competition.

Four Lady Continentals got in on the action as they also set school records at the Liberty League championships last Saturday. Alexandra Americanos '10, Amanda Salisburg '08, Jess DeMichiel '08, and Akilah Bond '09 were not to be outdone by their competition. Americanos finished the 55m dash in 7.5 seconds to capture the Liberty League title.

Bond qualified for NCAA Division III Championships after she won the triple jump event with a jump of 11.5 meters. She is currently in fifth place for all Division III competitors on the season after her jump. Not only did she win in the triple jump, but she also broke her own school record in the long jump. She leaped 5.24 meters.

Bond, Americanos, Liz Wahl '10, and Danica Wuelfing '10 were a force to be reckoned with in the 800-meter relay. They almost were able to complete their great race with a first place win. They settled for second place narrowly being edged out by the Rensselaer running mates. Their finish time of 1:49:68 was good enough to give them a spot in the ECAC Division III championships that will take place later next month.

The other record came in the pole vault event. DeMichiel and Salisburg each had a height of 3.08 meters and both qualified for the ECAC meet in March.

Meredith FitzPatrick '11 converted her outdoor running skills into success at her first indoor championship meet. She ran the mile in an impressive time of 5 minutes and 22 seconds for third place.

This weekend both teams will head to Cornell to take part in Cornell's Mark Denault Invitational. This meet will be a great test of the teams' strength and readiness before they take part in the final big championship events later on in the season. Next weekend is the New York State championship competition.

The men's and women's coaches are looking forward to seeing progress showing up in the big time events.

"We had many season and personal bests this past weekend. I was pleased with the effort put forth, and we hope to build on that for the remainder of the season," said men's coach Brett Hull.

"We had a great team effort and people dug deep. I am very proud of our effort and look forward to the "peak" phase of the season," said women's coach Ellen Hull.